魍魎の匣 2

もうりょうのはこ

原作
京極夏彦

作画
志水アキ

怪

9784048542180

ISBN978-4-04-854218-0
C0979 ¥560E

定価：本体560円（税別）

発行：角川書店

1920979005600

昭和27年。戦後刑事になった木場修太郎は、
偶然列車事故に巻き込まれる。
列車に轢かれた女学生の加菜子に会うため、
現場にいた頼子とともに、
匣の形をした建物へ向かった。
売れない作家関口巽は、
バラバラ連続殺人事件を取材していた。
探偵榎木津礼二郎は、
依頼人から人捜しを頼まれる。
それぞれの事件が、やがてひとつに、
京極堂こと中禅寺秋彦のもとに集約されていく――。

京極夏彦

原作者。
全日本妖怪推進委員会・肝煎。
世界妖怪協会評議員。
角川書店刊行のムック「怪」に「西巷説百物語」を連載中。

http://www.osawa-office.co.jp/

志水アキ

漫画家。
ヒゲ愛好家として名を馳せる。
京極ファンとしても知られる。
齢を重ねた人物を描かせたら右に出る者はいない。

http://www.hige-system.com/

怪

魍魎の匣

もうりょうのはこ

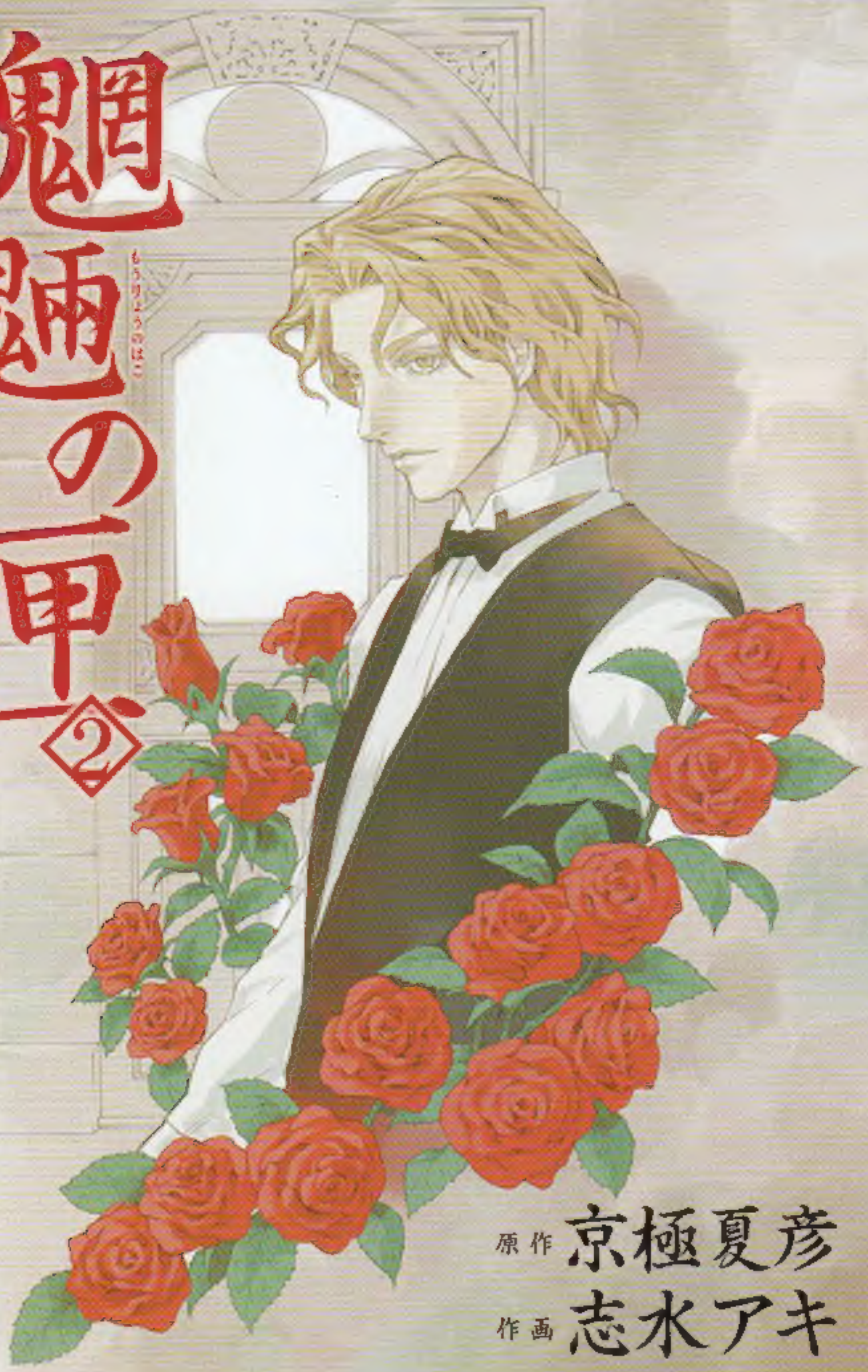
2

原作 京極夏彦
作画 志水アキ

角川書店

魍魎の匣
もうりょうのはこ
2
原作
京極夏彦
作画
志水アキ
怪

魍魎の匣 2

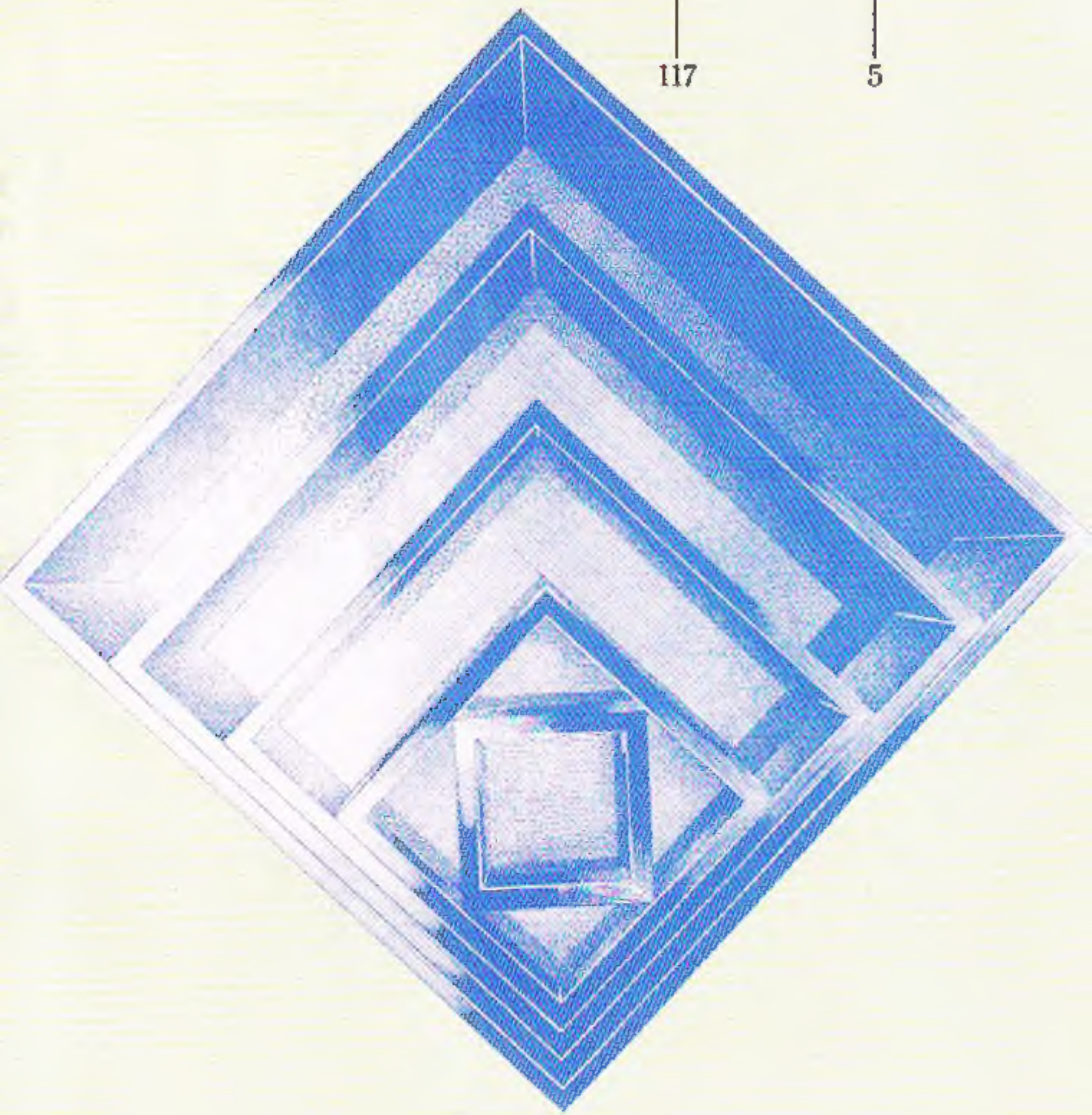


原作 京極夏彦
作画 志水アキ

Table of Contents

Chapter 4 117

Chapter 3 5



TERAUCHI AND I HAD A FEAST AFTER I TURNED IN MY CORRECTIONS FOR MY BOOK TO THE PUBLISHER

IT'S BEEN ABOUT 20 DAYS SINCE I WAS TOLD ABOUT THE PUBLISHING OF MY COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES

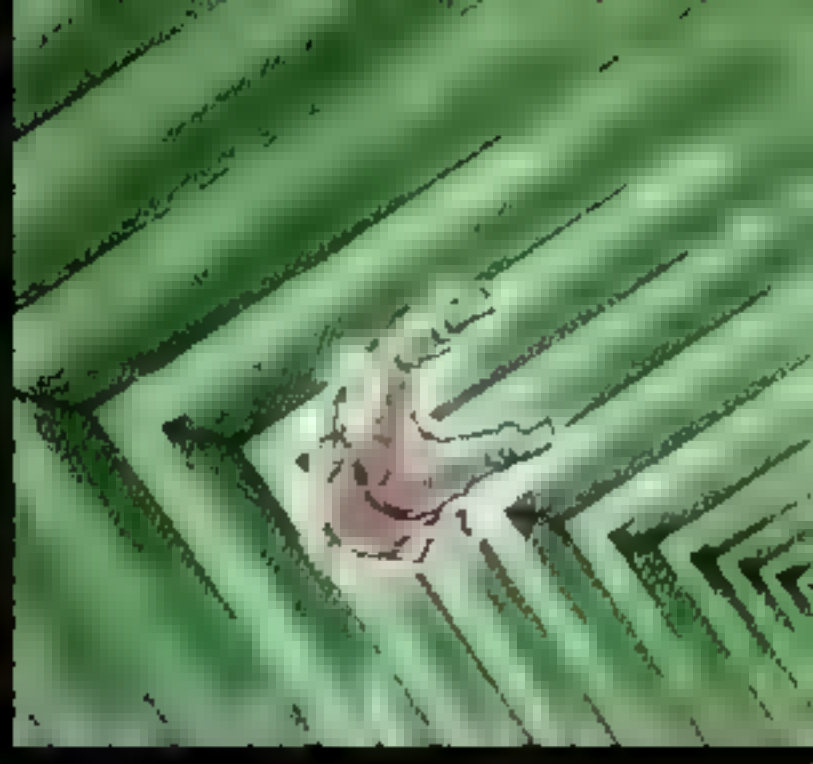
UGH THIS IS SOME HANGOVER I'M HAVING

I HAD A DREAM

I HAVE TO ASK KYOGOKU DO ABOUT THE ORDER OF THE STORIES FOR MY BOOK

REALLY SHOULD HEAD OVER TO KYOGOKU-OO S

第参話



SENSEI!

SEKIGUCHI -SENSEI!

SENSEI-

ARE YOU HOME-?

SENSEI-

OH

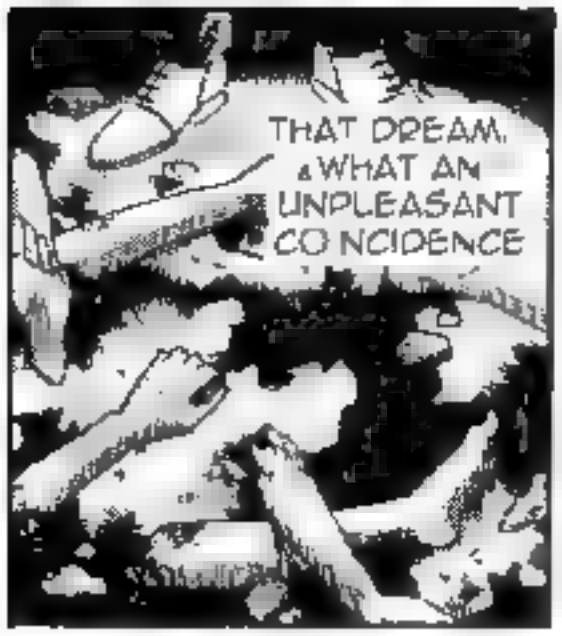
IT'S YOU

SEKIGUCHI -SENSEI!

SO, WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE HERE?

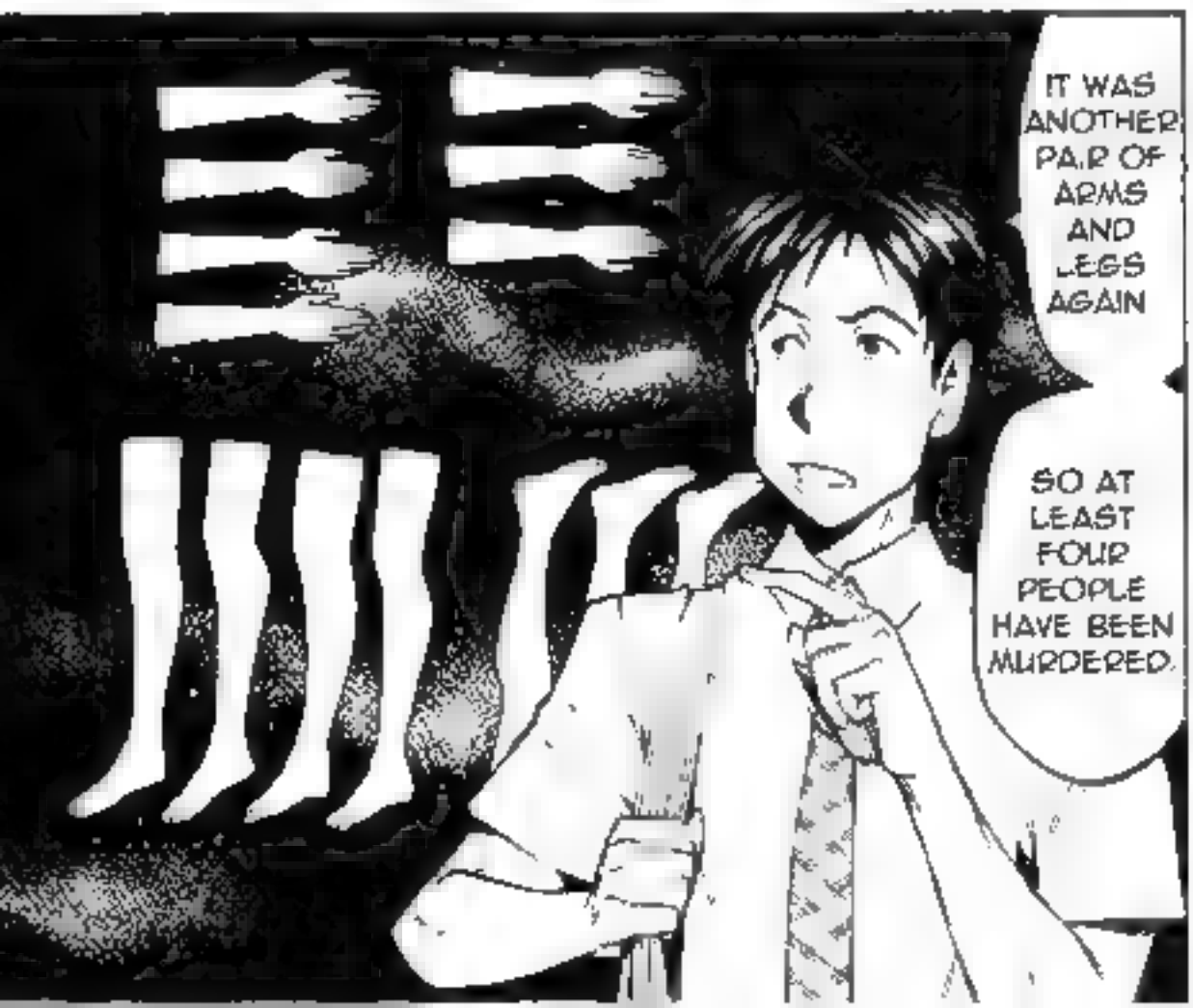
I WAS JUST LYING DOWN.

WERE YOU ASLEEP?


THAT DREAM. WHAT AN UNPLEASANT CO NCIDENCE

IT'S THE
DISMEM-BERING CASE AGAIN!

IS IT THE TORSO NOW? OR A HEAD?
I HEARD THE BODY PARTS ARE COMING UP ABOUT EVERY THREE DAYS


IT WAS ANOTHER PAIR OF ARMS AND LEGS AGAIN
SO AT LEAST FOUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MURDERED

THE AUGUST 29TH DISMEM-BERING CASE AT LAKE SAGAMI
BECAME A SERIAL DISMEMBERING MURDER CASE

IT WAS YOUR FAULT

WE HAD A HORRIBLE TIME THEN, I'M OVER THAT

I DON'T WANT THE SAME THING THAT HAPPENED LAST TIME TO HAPPEN AGAIN.

AND? WHAT IS IT YOU WANT ME TO DO?

BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT TIGHT SECURITY WAS FOR

BECAUSE OF THE MEDIA GAG ORDER

IT SEEMS THAT BUILDING IS SOME KIND OF LABORATORY

IT'S BAD NEWS IF ACCHAN'S BROTHER FINDS OUT SOMEONE'S GOING AFTER HER

SINCE WE'RE BOTH EDITORS.

OH COME ON, IT'S JUST TO TRADE INFORMATION.

YUP, ATSUKO-SAN DID

YOU DID RESEARCH ON THAT BOX?

DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE BEEN MEETING UP WITH HER AFTER THAT.

ATSUKO-SAN?

THERE ARE TWO EXITS.

WELL, TORI-GUCHI -KUN,

LETS SAY YOU'RE IN A TUNNEL

IS HE SOME KIND OF MUSCULAR GIANT?

IS ATSUKO -SAN'S BROTHER THAT SCARY?

TO YOUR FRONT, YOU HAVE A FURIOUS TOCHI-NISHIKI*

*TOCHINISHIKI IS A FAMOUS AND VERY STRONG SUMO WRESTLER AT THE TIME

WHICH WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

AND TO YOUR BACK YOU HAVE AN AWFULLY REPROACHFUL LOOKING GHOST OF AKUTAGAWA RYUNOSUKE*

*AKUTAGAWA RYUNOSUKE IS A FAMOUS WRITER KNOWN FOR THE CLASSIC LITERATURES IN JAPAN

RIGHT? HE'S THAT SCARY

I WOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT MY LIFE AFTER-WARDS IF I WENT AGAINST A GHOST

WELL I WOULD HAVE TO CHOOSE TOCHINISHIKI, WHO'S STILL ALIVE, AND APOLOGIZE LIKE CRAZY

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE "KEGAREFUUJI ONBAKO-SAMA"* IN MITAKA?

AND? WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR? I'M NOT TAKING ANY PART IN THE DISMEMBERING CASE BY THE WAY

OH, I'M HERE FOR A DIFFERENT REASON.

SUCH A LARGE STORY LIKE THIS DOESN'T HAVE A CHANCE IN OUR MAGAZINE

* THIS NAME ROUGHLY TRANSLATES TO "THE EVIL-SEALING BOX" BUT IT SOUNDS MUCH BETTER IN JAPANESE AND SINCE IT'S A NAME, I'LL LEAVE IT AS IS

ANOTHER COINCIDENCE WITH MY DREAM?

ONBAKO -SAMA..?

KEGARE-FUUJI.

BOX

THE ORIGIN OF THE PROB-LEMS.

IT'S SAID THAT HE GUESSES THE TROUBLES THAT THE FOLLOWERS ARE HAVING ON THE SPOT AND SEALS THEM INTO A BOX,

YES.

A RELIGION, OR MORE LIKE AN EXORCISM CULT AND THE FOUNDER IS A MAN DRESSED LIKE A BUDDHIST MONK AND CARRIES A BOX AROUND

WELL, SOMETHING ALONG THOSE LINES

IS IT SOME KIND OF FAKE RELIGION USED FOR FRAUDS?

INTER-ESTING INFOR-MATION?

AND I FOUND OUT SOME INTERESTING INFORMATION SO I'M INTERVIEWING THEM.

ALRIGHT., YOU WANT ME TO HELP, RIGHT?

IS IT SOME KIND OF HUGE STORY?

HOLD IT! I CAN'T SAY ANY MORE.

I HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH HIM, DO YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?

BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, THERE'S SOMEONE MORE FITTING

THAT'D BE GREAT!

OH!

THE GHOST OF AKUTA-GAWA

OH? AND WHO WOULD THAT BE?

KYOGOKUDO'S HOUSE IS APPROXIAMATELY 30 MINUTES FROM MY HOUSE ON FOOT.

NAKANO STATION

SO IT'S CALLED "THE DIZZY HILL"

FOR SOME REASON PEOPLE GET DIZZY WALKING UP THIS HILL

I SEE

IT'S RIGHT AT THE TOP OF THIS HILL

WHOA

SO IT'S TRUE

Taking a break

極東京堂
Kyogokudo

THAT'S STRANGE, MAYBE HE'S IN THE MAIN HOUSE

OH, SEKI-GUCHI -SAN

LONG TIME NO SEE CHIZU -SAN.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO THE YURAKUZA THEATRE WITH YUKIE

OH, THAT. WE COULDN'T GET TICKETS BECAUSE IT WAS SO POPULAR

YUKIE -SAN'S OUT SHOPPING OR SOMETHING

OH, I SEE.

I'VE BEEN NOTIFIED

NICE TO MEET.

I'M TORI-GUCHI!

THIS IS TORIGUCHI -KUN, HE'S UHH...

AN EDITOR I KNOW

OH, THAT SULKY STONE STATUE?

BY THE WAY, WHERE'S KYOGOKU-DO?

ISA-MAYA WAS? HOW UN-USUAL

I HEARD HE'S GOING ON A TRIP

HE'S IN THE LIVING ROOM

ISAMAYA -SAN WAS HERE JUST A MINUTE AGO

SO THAT WAS ATSUKO-SAN'S SISTER?

THEY HAVE SOME RESEMBLANCE

UNFORTUNATELY YOU'RE WRONG

THE ONE WHO'S BLOOD RELATED TO ACCHAN IS THAT GUY OVER THERE

HEY SEKIGUCHI-KUN, IT'S BEEN A WHILE

I THOUGHT YOU'D ALREADY DIED

HUH?

I WAS BUSY
I JUST
HAD SOME
BUSINESS
WITH YOU
TODAY

*JITSUROKU
HANZAI
MONTHLY"'S
TORIGUCHI
MORIHIKO-KUN

AND
THIS
IS.

WHAT?
HAVE A
SEAT

I'VE BROUGHT
OUT CUSHIONS
FOR THE BOTH
OF YOU

SEKIGUCHI -KUN AND I HAVE BEEN FRIENDS.

I'M CHUUZENJI AKIHIKO, NICE TO MEET YOU

OH, SO TODAY.

BUT IT SEEMS HE'S IN A FAIRLY GOOD MOOD TODAY

SO HE DOESN'T EVEN THINK OF ME AS A FRIEND?

NO, ACQUAINTANCES, SINCE WE WERE STUDENTS

THAT'S IF "JITSUROKU HANZAI" EVEN PLANS TO PUBLISH THE NEXT ISSUE

HUH?

THE DISMEMBERING MURDER CASE FROM MUSASHINO. THE ARTICLE PROBABLY WON'T BE READY IN TIME FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

RIGHT, TORI-GUCHI -KUN,

YOU SHOULDN'T GET TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH THAT BUILDING YOU WANDERED INTO

SENOO..

BESIDES, THE CHIEF EDITOR

HE SHOULDN'T BE SO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE WHOLE DISMEMBERING MURDER CASE

AND THIS IS A WARNING

AM I WRONG?

NO, YOU'RE NOT

WHY DO YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT? I HAVEN'T EVEN INTRODUCED TORIGUCHI-KUN

B-BUT WE'VE MET FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY AND~

EVERYTHING YOU SAID ABOUT ME AND ABOUT THE NEXT ISSUE IS RIGHT

H..HOW DID YOU KNOW ALL THAT?

THEN CHUUZENJI -SAN, DID YOU USE SOME SORT OF

SPIRIT-UALISM OR.

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM IN 2 MONTHS

AND ABOUT THAT BOX BUILDING.

THERE'S MUCH MORE I CAN TELL ABOUT YOU, TORIGUCHI-KUN

?

FOR INSTANCE YOU USED TO PLAY AT A SHRINE WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD

THERE ARE ONE, TWO NO FOUR SHRINES THERE

AND A LARGE TREE, A CEDAR

THERE ARE MANY FLAGS THERE

I DIDN'T REMEMBER THAT UNTIL YOU TOLD ME BUT

WHAP

I... I AM COMPLETELY DUMB-FOUNDED! EVERYTHING IS CORRECT

WHY? WHY DID HE KNOW?

WHAT'S YOUR TRICK, KYOGOKUDO? DON'T TELL ME YOU LEARNED THE SPIRITUALISM YOU HATED SO MUCH...

NO

THIS IS SPIRITUALISM, SEKIGUCHI-KUN

I WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO GUESS WHO TORIGUCHI-KUN WAS, ALONG WITH HIS PAST AND PRESENT!

IT'S WEIRD NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT!

LOVE AND HATE ARE DIFFERENT FROM BEING ABLE TO DO SOMETHING OR NOT

DID YOU CHANGE FAITHS OR SOMETHING?

YOU HATED THINGS LIKE SPIRITS AND THE SUPER-NATURAL

THERE'S NOTHING STRANGE IN THIS WORLD, SEKIGUCHI-KUN

IN THIS WORLD ...

NOTHING STRANGE ...

SO TELL ME YOUR TRICKS

HOW RUDE

YOU ALWAYS USE THAT TO TRICK ME

BUT I ONLY THOUGHT OF BRINGING TORIGUCHI -KUN HERE AN HOUR AGO

KNEW?

THERE'S NOTHING TO IT I JUST HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS, THEREFORE I KNEW

FIVE MINUTES AGO?

DOESN'T MATTER. I FOUND OUT JUST FIVE MINUTES AGO

DIDN'T YOU INTRODUCE TORIGUCHI -KUN TO CHIZUKO?

THAT'S RIGHT. I WAS ON MY WAY BACK FROM THE BATHROOM RIGHT WHEN YOU GUYS CAME HERE

WHO'S CHEATING? YOU JUST TOOK TOO LONG TO GET TO THIS ROOM

THAT'S.. CHEATING!

SEKIGUCHI -KUN, WHAT DID CHIZUKO SAY WHEN YOU NTRODUCED TORIGUCHI -KUN TO HER?

BUT YOU ALSO GUESSED MY JOB.

I'VE HEARD A LOT

I SEE. YOU HEARD FROM ACCHAN!

I'VE BEEN NOTIFIED

WHAT

KYOGOKUDO DOES HE KNOW SOMETHING?

BUT YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T GET TOO DEEPLY INVOLED WITH THAT

WELL YES

SO YOU HEARD ABOUT THAT BOX BUILDING FROM ATSUKO -SAN TOO?

TWITCH

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT I KNOW AS A FACT AND WHAT I UNDERSTAND

I DIDN'T TALK TO ATSUKO-SAN ABOUT THAT

FURTHERMORE, TO GUESS THE NUMBER OF SHRINES, THE CEDAR AND FLAGS RIGHT

WELL LET'S PUT THAT ASIDE FOR NOW

HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT TORIGUCHI -KUN PLAYING AT THE SHRINE?

THIS IS WHAT I HEARD FROM ATSUKO

IN THIS CASE, I KNEW FOR A FACT THAT TORIGUCHI-KUN WAS FROM THE ONYU DISTRICT IN WAKASA, AND THAT HE CAME FROM NOTAO!

NOW THAT YOU TELL ME, REMEMBER TELLING HER ABOUT MY HOMETOWN

DID YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT?

NOTAO! IS NATASHO VILLAGE, AND NATASHO IS KNOWN TO BE THE FIEF OF THE TSUCHIMIKADO FAMILY WHO IS BLOOD-RELATED TO ABE NO SEIMEI

EVER SINCE ABE NO SEIMEI'S BUNREI* WAS INSTALLED AS THE DEITY AND ENSHRINED DURING THE ONIN WAR, THAT SHRINE HAS BEEN PROTECTED BY THE SUCCESSIVE EMPERORS

HAVE YOU BEEN THERE BEFORE?

WHY DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING EVEN HE HIMSELF DIDN'T REMEMBER?

HOW?

NO, BUT NOTAO! IS DIFFERENT

*BUNREI IS A SHINTO TECHNICAL TERM THAT INDICATES THE PROCESS OF DIVISION (WIKIPEDIA)

FORGOT KYOGOKUDO WAS ALSO A SHINTO PRIEST

IT IS CALLED THE MUSASHI SEIMEI SHRINE

HIS SHRINE IS LOCATED IN A FOREST NEARBY

OUR SHRINE DOES, AFTER ALL, ENSHRINE ABE NO SEIMEI TOO

THOUGH THAT WAS A GUESS, SO I JUDGED THROUGH YOUR EXPRESSION

THE CEDAR TREE AND FLAGS WERE KNOWLEDGE FROM BOOKS

THEREFORE I FIGURED THAT TORIGUCHI-KUN PLAYED THERE DURING H S CHILDHOOD

NATASHO IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A FOREST THERE ARE FOUR SHRINES, KIFUNE, KAMO, YOSHITSUNE KAWAKAMI, AND TENSHA

AND SO, WHAT I "UNDERSTAND" CAN BE FOUND THROUGH WHAT I "KNOW"

OH! BACK THEN! IT WAS JUST LIKE THAT!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BUT WHY ARE YOU PLAYING TRICKS ON US?

THERE'S NOTHING TO IT WHEN YOU FIND OUT THE TRUTH, BUT

HM? I THOUGHT THIS WAS THE TYPE OF THING YOU WERE HERE FOR

RIGHT? CHUUZENJI -SAN

IT'S ONBAKO -SAMA

THAT'S WHY

SO I GUESSED WHEN SEKIGUCHI-KUN BROUGHT TORIGUCHI-KUN OVER, THAT IT WOULD BE ABOUT THAT

WELL I HEARD FROM ATSUKO THAT YOU WERE TRYING TO INTERVIEW SOME FAITH HEALER OR FORTUNETELLER OR SOMETHING

TAKE YOUR EYES OFF? WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR YOU TO BE ON GUARD?

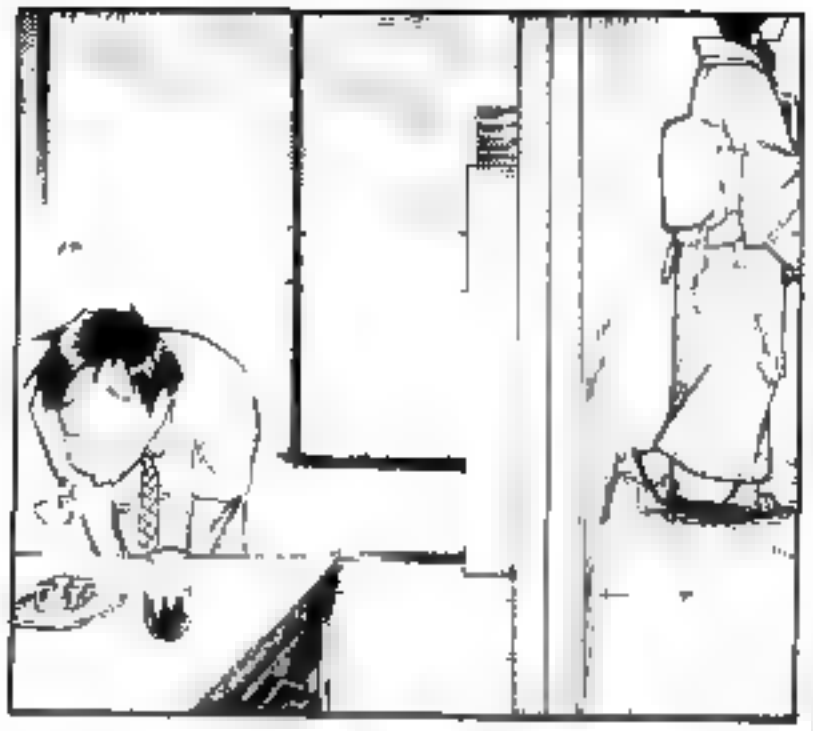
ONE MINUTE I SEE YOU GUYS FIGHTING AND THE NEXT MINUTE YOU GUYS ARE EXCHANGING INFOR-MATION

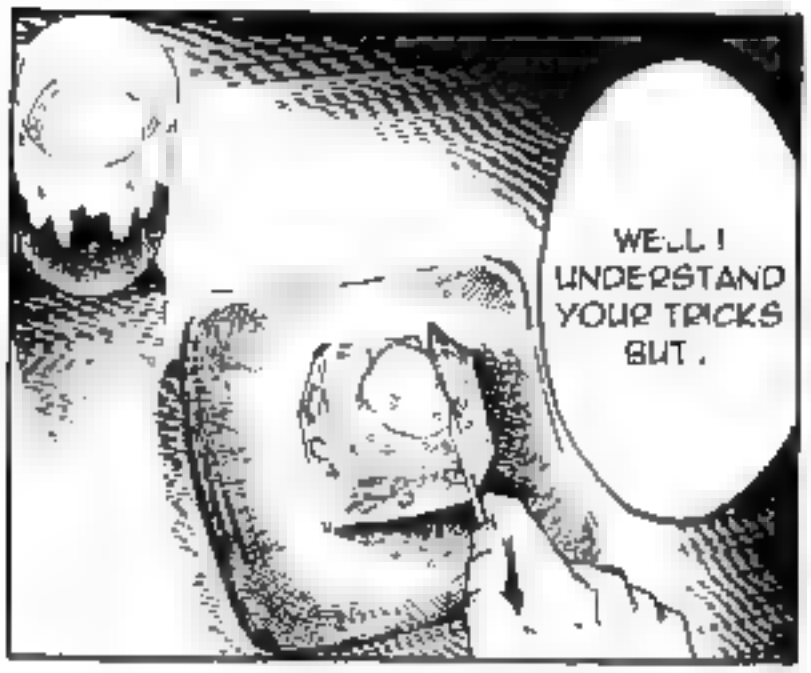
I CAN NEVER TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU SIBLINGS

DIDN'T IT MAKE MORE SENSE THAN JUST EXPLAINING?

WEL...

YES, BUT.




WELL I UNDERSTAND YOUR TRICKS BUT.

UNLIKE HIM, ATSUKO IS NORMAL, SO PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HER, TORIGUCHI-SAN
OH, NO PROBLEM AT ALL

WHAT'S THE DIFFER-ENCE?

NO YOU NEED TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIVINE INSPIRATIONS AND THE LIKE AND DIVINATIONS BEFORE THAT
SOME PEOPLE TALK ABOUT TELEKINESIS AND RELIG ON AS IF IT WERE THE SAME THING, WHICH MAKES IT SEEM MORE SUSPICIOUS

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT ALL SHAMANS AND DIVINERS ARE ABLE TO BET THE CLIENT'S NFORMATION BEFOREHAND?

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THERE'S A RELIGIOUS DIVINER WITH PRETERNATURAL POWERS, SO THEY DON'T EXACTLY COME IN A SET

A DIVINER IS A JOB TITLE, AND A PSYCHIC AND A PERSON WITH PRETER-NATURAL POWERS ARE WORDS TO DESCRIBE A PERSON'S SPECIAL ABILITY

HOW-EVER

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

LET'S SAY THERE'S A RELIGIOUS MEDIUM*, A PSYCHIC, A DIVINER, AND A PERSON WITH PRETERNATURAL POWERS

IT'S EASY IF YOU STRAIGHTEN IT UP

THESE ARE ACTUALLY QUITE DIFFERENT IN TERMS OF GENRE, SO IT MAY SEEM STRANGE TO COMPARE THEM. BUT

*WE COULDN'T THINK OF A BETTER TRANSLATION FROM JAPANESE FOR THIS WORD, BUT RELIGIOUS MEDIUM REFERS TO SOMEONE WHO IS THE LEADER OF A RELIGION. SOMEONE WHO STARTS IT UP AND NOT A FOLLOWER OF A RELIGION

IT'S THE REASON WHY THEY ARE CRITICIZED AND MIXED UP

MIRACLES

YOU SEE

AND WHAT'S THAT MATTER?

IF ONE WERE TO TALK ABOUT THEM ON ONE CERTAIN MATTER, THIS LINEUP WOULD BE CORRECT

SO, THESE PEOPLE ARE "PEOPLE WHO DEAL WITH MIRACLES AS PART OF THEIR JOB"

TO AVOID CONFUSION, I'M GOING TO DEFINE MIRACLES AS "PHENOMENA THAT WOULD NOT NORMALLY OCCUR"

YOU HAVE TO BE PREPARED, OR ELSE EVERYONE GETS PULLED INTO KYOGOKUDO'S STORY

IT'S STARTING AGAIN

THIS IS A FAIRLY ROUGH WAY OF CATEGORIZING THEM, BUT AS LONG AS THE CRITICISMS AND CONFUSIONS ARE CENTERED AROUND THIS ONE POINT,

I BELIEVE IT TO BE NECESSARY THAT TO STUDY THE CRITICISMS, ONE MUST KNOW THE CLEAR DIFFERENCE BETWEEEN THEM

SEE?

OUT OF THE MANY MIRACLES, LET ME EXPLAIN THE EASIEST ONE

NOW

AM I CLEAR?

THIS IS WHAT'S CALLED "UNCOVERING THE SECRET"

THE PAST AND FUTURE

THE UNKNOWN TRUTH ABOUT YOURSELF OR A THIRD PERSON

MIRACLES SUCH AS SENSING AND TELLING MATTERS THAT COULD NOT BE KNOWN NORMALLY,

THEN WHAT'S THE DIFFER-ENCE?

DIFFER-ENCE ?

IN THAT SENSE, TELEPATHY, SIXTH SENSES, AND DIVINATIONS ARE THE SAME

IT'S WHAT I DID EARLIER THE FOUR UNCOVER SECRETS FREQUENTLY

THIS SHOULD NOT BE PUT TOGETHER WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF MAKING PROFIT

REALLY? DON'T THEY WANT MORE FOLLOWERS BECAUSE IT BRINGS IN MORE MONEY?

MIRACLES HAPPEN FOR THAT REASON .. THEY HAPPEN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS

IN THE CASE OF THE RELIGIOUS MEDIUM, FAITH AND PROPA-GATION IS THEIR GOAL

THE ANSWER IS, THAT "THE GOAL" AND "THE WAY OF EXPLAINING THE MIRACLE" IS DIFFERENT

FIRST IS THAT THE FAITH THE PEOPLE HAVE IN THE RELIGION ITSELF HAS CAUSED THIS MIRACLE TO HAPPEN

THIS IS EFFECTIVE IN THE CASE OF NATURAL DISASTERS ALL THEY HAVE TO SAY IS THAT THIS IS A DIVINE REVELATION

NEXT, THE EXPLANATION OF THE MIRACLE IN THE CASE OF THE RELIGIOUS MEDIUM-

THERE ARE TWO IN THIS CASE

SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO DOESN'T HAVE A FAITH MAY NOT UNDERSTAND BUT THAT'S WRONG

BUT,

WE CAN TALK ABOUT THAT LATER

THAT'S RIGHT

AH, SO EVEN IF YOU ASK ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, THERE WOULD BE NO MEANING UNLESS YOU CRITICIZE THE EXISTENCE OF THAT GOD OR THAT RELIG ON ITSELF

SO THE EXPLANATION WOULD BE THAT THE FOLLOWER'S FAITH AND PRACTICE HAS BROUGHT UPON THE DIVINE REVELATION

THE OTHER IS THAT THE FAITH OF THE FOLLOWER HAS CAUSED THE MIRACLE

I MEAN, THEY CAN GAIN PSYCHIC ABILITIES THROUGH TRAINING

ARE RELIGIOUS MEDIUMS AND PSYCHICS ANY DIFFERENT?

AND NEXT, IN THE CASE OF THE PSYCHIC.

NO MATTER WHAT THE PSYCHIC MAY HAVE FAITH IN, ISN'T THE FOLLOWERS' OBJECT OF VENERATION THE PSYCHIC?

WHAT ABOUT NEW RELIGIONS WHERE THE FOUNDER IS A PSYCHIC?

YOU CAN SAY THE REST IS ALMOST THE SAME

AND THAT IS WHETHER OR NOT THEIR GOAL IS TO SPREAD FAITH AND PROPAGATE THEIR RELIGION

THERE'S ONE FACTOR SEPARATING THE PRACTITIONER INTO A PSYCHIC AND A RELIGIOUS MEDIUM..

A RELIGIOUS MEDIUM'S GOAL IS TO PROPAGATE, AND RELIEF IS ONLY A BONUS THAT COMES WITH FAITH

OPPOSED TO THAT, A PSYCHIC'S GOAL IS TO USE THEIR SPECIAL ABILITY TO SAVE THE FOLLOWER AND RECEIVE A REWARD

SO THEIR GOAL IS PROFIT

UNLESS IT'S FREE OF COURSE

WHAT WOULD THE PSYCHIC'S GOAL BE? FAITH AND RELIGION HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM

RIGHT

IT'S RELIEF FOR THE MOST PART

ISN'T THAT THE SAME AS RELIGION?

RELIEF IS A PART OF FAITH

A RELIGIOUS MEDIUM WOULDN'T SAY SUCH AN ARROGANT THING

SUCH AS THEY WERE BORN THAT WAY, OR IT WAS THE RESULT OF PRACTICE OR FAITH. THERE ARE EVEN PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY'RE GOD.

AND EVEN IF SOMEONE ASKS WHY, THEIR ANSWER CAN BE ANYTHING

ALL THEY HAVE TO SAY IS THAT THEY HAVE THAT KIND OF POWER.

WHAT EXPLANATION DOES THE PSYCHIC HAVE FOR MIRACLES?

THAT'S EASY

FORTUNE-TELLING

ALL THE DIVINER HAS TO DO IS SHOW THEIR DIVINATION THEORY

SEXAGENARY CYCLE,

FOUR PILLARS OF DESTINY,

HOROSCOPE,

FENG SHUI

YIN YANG AND WU XING

ANYONE CAN DO THESE AS LONG AS THEY STUDY

THE EXPLANATION FOR THE MIRACLE WELL YOU WOULDN'T CALL IT A MIRACLE IN THIS CASE BUT

!

THIS IS ALSO CLEAR

NOW FOR THE DIVINER

THE GOAL IS SIMPLE AS LONG AS THEY'RE DOING BUSINESS, IT'S FOR PROFIT

A DIVINER TALKING ABOUT ANCESTORS AND FATE S OUT OF LINE

THEY WERE PROBABLY JUST TOO LAZY TO STUDY THE THEORIES

WHAT ABOUT S XTH SENSE DIVINATIONS?

BECAUSE DIVINATIONS ARE LIKE THAT, IF YOU'RE GOING TO CRITICIZE, YOU'D NEED TO TAKE A STAB AT THE CONTRADICTION OF DIVINATION THEORIES ITSELF

I KIND OF GET IT BUT THIS IS COMPLICATED

HM.

ENOKIZU IS OUR FRIEND AND WELL HE'S THAT KIND OF PERSON

SOMEONE LIKE ENOKIZU WOULD BE THIS

AH.

THIS HAS TO DO WITH THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PERSON'S BODY, SO THERE'S NO GOAL AND EVEN IF THEY WANTED TO EXPLAIN, AS THE NAME SHOWS, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE

LASTLY, SOMEONE WITH PRETER-NATURAL POWERS

AND EVEN BEFORE THAT, YOU WOULD NEED PROOF THAT THE POWER IS ACTUALLY REAL

IN THIS CASE, YOU WOULD NEED TO CRITICIZE HOW THEY USE THAT POWER AND THE THEORY BEHIND IT

SO IF YOU PUT DOWN ALL OF WHAT CHUUZENJI-SAN JUST SAID, IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS

	The goal of the Miracle	The explanation for the Miracle
Religious medium	Propagation (Non-profit)	① Divine Revelation ② Follower's Faith
Psychic	Relief (Profit)	Anything
Diviner	For profit	Divination theory
Preternatural powers	None	Not explainable

YES

NOW, TORIGUCHI-KUN, AM I MAKING SENSE SO FAR?

"I HAVE READ TORIGUCHI -KUN S MIND"

AND IF I WERE SOMEONE WITH PRETER-NATURAL POWERS AND SAID

THAT WOULD ALSO BE A TRICK

THEN THAT WOULD BE A TRICK

IF I WERE A PSYCHIC AND SAID, "THE TELEKINETIC POWERS FROM MY CLAIRVOYANT ABILITIES HAVE INFORMED ME OF TORIGUCHI -KUN'S VISIT"

BECAUSE IT S A LIE

EARLIER SEKIGUCHI -KUN CALLED WHAT I DID A TRICK

WELL IT IS

WE WOULD JUST THINK THAT STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN

HOWEVER, THE ONLY LIE HERE WOULD BE THE EXPLANATION OF HOW I WAS ABLE TO ACQUIRE THIS INFORMATION,

BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER TO YOU GUYS WHETHER OR NOT THAT WAS A LIE

THEN WHAT IF I WERE A DIVINER?

I GUESS... I WOULD BELIEVE IN THAT

IT'S A LOT MORE CREDIBLE THAN SOME PRETER-NATURAL POWER

"I WAS NOTIFIED OF TORIGUCHI SO-AND-SO'S ARRIVAL THROUGH A DIVINATION TECHNIQUE PASSED DOWN FROM ANCIENT CHINA, AND AFTER SOME PHRENOLOGY AND FACE READING, I WAS ABLE TO FEEL YOUR PROBLEMS AND LUCK, AND THEREFORE WAS ABLE TO SPEAK WITH YOU ON MANY MATTERS-"

THEN WHAT?

IT'S THE SAME, A LIE IS A LIE

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT WHAT IF I SAID

WHY WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME? THERE'S NO PROOF I'M RIGHT

YOU'RE NOT BEING VERY NICE, KYOGOKUDO WHAT IF TORIGUCHI-KUN BELIEVED YOU AND HUNG HIMSELF?

AND WHAT IF I CONTINUED "STARTING TOMORROW, TORIGUCHI SO-AND-SO'S LUCK WILL PLUMMET YOU WILL FAIL AT WORK YOU WILL NOT DO WELL WITH WATER, FIRE AND WOMEN. FURTHERMORE, THE SHADOW OF DEATH IS UPON YOU"

THEN WHAT?

THAT'S RIGHT
N THE CASE
OF THE DIVINER
THAT S THE
BIGGEST TRICK

WELL..
IF YOU GOT THE
PAST AND PRESENT
RIGHT,
THEN IT S ONLY
NORMAL TO THINK
THAT WHAT YOU
SAY ABOUT THE
FUTURE WILL
ALSO BE RIGHT

THAT'S WHY
YOU SHOULD BE
ESPECIALLY
SUSPICIOUS
OF DIVINERS
WHO KEEP
GUESS NG
YOUR PAST
AND PRESENT
RIGHT

THEY'RE
JUSTIFYING
THEIR
PREDICT ON BY
JSING THE PAST
AND PRESENT

BUT A
DIVINER'S
WORTH IS
RELIANT ON
PREDICT ONS

ACTUALLY,
THAT WOULD
BE BETTER
BECAUSE
THAT MEANS
MY
DIVINATION
WAS CORRECT

SO AS LONG
AS I GET PAID,
NOTHING ELSE
MATTERS
EVEN F
TORIGUCHI-KUN
WERE TO DROWN
OR BURN TO
DEATH

THAT'S
HORRIBLE-

OH..
I SEE

STAY
WITH ME
A LITTLE
LONGER

SO,
WHAT ARE
YOU TRYING
TO SAY?

WELL, YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHETHER A PROPHECY WILL HIT OR MISS.
EVEN IF IT'S A MISS, IF TORIGUCHI-KUN THINKS THAT "THE DIVINATION HAS CHANGED MY LUCK", THAT'S A PLUS FOR THE DIVINER

THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE A PROFIT UNTIL THEY MISS

HOWEVER, IF I WERE A PSYCHIC,

THERE WOULD BE SOMETHING MORE AFTER THE BAD NEWS

SOME-THING MORE?

"SO, LET'S GET RID OF THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM"

LIKE THAT

AH. SEE

A DIVINER'S JOB IS FORETELLING THE FUTURE, BUT A PSYCHIC'S JOB IS TO RELIEVE THE CLIENT AFTER THE DIVINATION

SO, BUY THIS JAR.

IS HOW IT GOES

HEY

H-HOW MUCH WOULD IT BE?

SO HOW ABOUT IT?

IS IT ILL-NATURED?

NO, THERE'S JUST MORE TO T

BUT IT ENDS THERE FOR THE PSYCHIC

THERE'S EVEN MORE FOR A RELIGIOUS MEDIUM

THERE ARE GOOD LIES IF TORIGUCHI-KUN BECOMES A FOLLOWER, A LITTLE LIE HERE OR THERE WOULDN'T MATTER

THEY WOULD CONVERT TORIGUCHI -KUN

THOSE WHO BELIEVE WILL BE SAVED

IT WOULD BE CONSIDERED CHEAP TO LIVE A HAPPY LIFE FOR A JAR OR TWO.

EVERYTHING LEADS UP TO THIS

NO, THEY AREN'T

THEIR M.O MAY BE THE SAME, BUT WHERE THE TRICKS HAVE AN EFFECT ARE DIFFERENT

IT'S SARDINE

EVEN THE HEAD OF A *SAURY* CAN BE A CHARM AGAINST EVIL IF YOU BELIEVE IN IT

"THIS IS A SAYING IN JAPAN THAT JUST PRETTY MUCH SAYS THAT AS LONG AS THERE S SOMEONE BELIEVEING IN IT, IT S REAL

THEY'RE ALL THE SAME

SO IN THE END, YOU'RE SAYING THAT PRETER-NATURAL POWERS, DIVINATIONS, PSYCHICS, AND RELIGIONS ARE ALL TRICKS, RIGHT?

AND THE PSYCHIC THE FIRST PART CAN BE A TRICK OR WHATEVER AS LONG AS THE PSYCHIC POWERS WORK, ANYTHING GOES

THE TRICK PRETTY MUCH ATTRACTS THE CUSTOMERS, SO YOU CAN'T EXACTLY DENY THE DIVINER FOR THAT REASON.

NEXT IS THE DIVINER THE STORY ABOUT THE PAST AND PRESENT MAY BE A TRICK, BUT THE FORETELLING OF THE FUTURE MAY BE RIGHT

THOUGH, HAVE A THEORY THAT ONE CAN FORETELL THE FUTURE

FIRST, IN THE CASE OF THE PERSON WITH PRETER-NATURAL POWERS IF THEY USED THE TRICK FROM BEFORE, THEIR POWERS ARE A LIE
IT WOULD ALREADY BE A TRICK FROM THE TIME THEY SAY THEY HAVE POWERS

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT SPIRITS ARE

IT DOESN'T MATTER

THAT'S QUITE AN ABSURD STATEMENT. LET ALONE THE EFFECT OF THE EXORCISM, ISN'T THE FIRST PART THE SAME?

"WHAT I NEED EVERYONE TO GET HERE IS THAT "SPIRITUALISM" IS THE BELIEF THAT DEAD PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO SEND MESSAGES TO THE LIVING, AND NOT REALLY ABOUT SPIRITUALITY

FOR THE DIVINER, THE M.O AT THE BEGINNING IS THERE TO MAKE THE CUSTOMER BELIEVE THEIR DIVINATION THEORY

ISN'T THAT THE SAME AS THE DIVINER AND THEIR CUSTOMER ATTRACTION?

WHAT'S NEEDED IN SHRINE MAIDENS AND ENCHANTERS IS THE SKILL TO ACQUIRE INFORMATION AND A WAY OF SPREADING THAT INFOR-MATION

SPIRITUALISM" IS ABOUT GIVING A TEMPORARY SHAPE TO THE CONCEPT OF "SPIRITS" AND NOT SOME PROFOUND MYSTERY

BUT, DIVINATONS ARE WRONG UNLESS THEY COINCIDENTALLY GET IT RIGHT.

AND IF THEY'RE WRONG, THEIR TRICKS WILL BE FOUND OUT

WRONG

THAT BRINGS CREDI-BILITY TO THE MIRACLE

WHY DO PSYCHICS KNOW THE FUTURE THAT THE DIVINERS DIDN'T KNOW?

THAT'S CONTRA-DICTORY!

PSYCHICS ARE NEVER WRONG

BUT UNLIKE DIVINATIONS, PRAYERS AND EXORCISMS HAVE AN EFFECT

PSYCHICS ARE THERE TO TELL NOT WHAT WILL HAPPEN BUT WHAT ONE SHOULD DO

THAT'S WHY PSYCHICS SAY "IF YOU DON'T DO _____, THERE WILL BE MISFORTUNE"

EVEN IF THEY DO AS THE PSYCHIC SAID AND MISFORTUNE STILL HAPPENS, ALL THEY HAVE TO SAY IS THAT THEY DIDN'T TRY HARD ENOUGH OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT

THEREFORE, THEY NEVER MISS

YOU SHOULDN'T BRING UP BITS AND PIECES AND SAY IT'S ALL A TRICK

AS LONG AS THERE'S PEOPLE WHO ARE SAVED, THAT'S THE WAY IT SHOULD BE

THEY'RE WORSE THAN DIVINERS

THAT'S JUST AN IMPOSTER

A LOUSY PSYCHIC DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THAT AND MAKES PROFIT THEIR FIRST PRIORITY THAT'S WHY THEIR TRICKS ARE EXPOSED AND THEY END UP SAVING NO ONE

THAT'S RIGHT

SO IT'S GOOD FOR THEM IF THEY CAN PULL IT ALL THE WAY THROUGH

THEN HOW ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS MEDIUM ?

THEY DON'T.

THE UNCOVERING OF THE SECRET THAT THE PSYCHIC DOES IS THE UNCOVERING OF PAST TIES

AND THEY MAKE AN UNNEEDED PREDICTION AND MAKE THINGS COMPLICATED

THEY ALSO DON'T PREDICT THE FUTURE

AND FOR THE FUTURE, THEY SAY IT'S NOT GOOD IF THINGS STAY THIS WAY

THERE'S TOO MUCH OF A RISK FOR PSYCHICS TO SPEAK OF THE FUTURE

PSYCHICS DON'T FORETELL THE FUTURE?

WHAT ABOUT PROPHETS?

WELL THERE ARE CORRUPT PRIESTS WHO MAKE DIVINATIONS BUT,

IF THEY GET IT RIGHT, THEY'RE HIRED BUT IF NOT, THEY'D BE BANISHED

SAKYAMA BUDDHA EVEN PROHIBITED DIVINATIONS

HM

IF PROPHETS GET IT WRONG, THAT MEANS GOD GOT IT WRONG THAT GOD WOULD BE A LAUGHING-STOCK

A PROPHET IN THIS CASE IS SOMEONE WHO RECEIVES THE WORD OF GOD

BUT THOSE ARE THINGS LIKE SAYING 51 BILLION 670 MILLION YEARS LATER, MAITREYA WILL DESCEND TO EARTH

I THOUGHT THERE WERE SACRED BOOKS THAT FORETOLD THE FUTURE

THEY'RE TOO FAR IN THE FUTURE THAT THERE'S NO WAY OF PROVING IT RIGHT THERE'S NO RISK

THEY EXIST

THEIR MEANING IN EXISTING IS ALMOST THE SAME AS THAT OF A PSYCHIC

IN ANCIENT TIMES, A VILLAGE'S ENCHANTER

THEY WERE, IN A SENSE, A RELIGIOUS SYMBOL BUT,

THEN WHAT RISK DOES A PSYCHIC HAVE WHEN TELLING THE FUTURE?

LET'S SEE...

IN OTHER WORDS, THE ENCHANTER'S WORDS WERE ALSO THE WORDS OF GOD, AND THEREFORE

THEY WERE ABLE TO BECOME GOD

THEY DON'T HAVE THE TRAIT OF THE RELIGIOUS MEDIUM, OF TEACHING DOCTRINES OR PROPAGATING, AND

IF A SHRINE MAIDEN OR AN ENCHANTER MADE THE WRONG PROPHECY,

THEY HAD TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH DEATH

DEATH

IN OTHER WORDS, DON'T PREDICT THE FUTURE IF YOU CAN'T TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT

THAT'S WHY THEY EVENTUALLY STOPPED PREDICTING THE FUTURE

THIS IS A PROBLEM. I WON'T BE ABLE TO FINISH MY BUSINESS WITH H.M

I WAS INITIALLY GOING TO CONSULT KYOGOKUDO ABOUT THE ORDER OF SHORT STORIES FOR MY BOOK

.....

THAT'S RIGHT

AND ABOVE THAT, IT'S NECESSARY TO CONSTANTLY F ND PROOF THAT THEY'RE REAL.

FIRST, THE PERSON WITH PRETER-NATURAL POWERS THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PULL ANY TRICKS

I'VE TRIED ORGANIZING THIS ALL. PLEASE TELL ME IF I GOT SOMETHING WRONG

SO WE CAN'T DENOUNCE THEM EVEN IF WE SEE THROUGH THE R TRICKS

THEN THE PSYCHIC

THEY CAN PULL AS MANY TRICKS AS THEY WANT AS LONG AS THEY'RE NOT FOUND OUT

BUT WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL OF DIVINERS WHO KEEP REFERENCING PRAYERS AND GIVING TO THE DEAD.

NEXT IS THE DIVINER THEY MAY BE ALLOWED TO PULL SOME TRICKS AT THE BEGINNING,

HOWEVER, WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL OF LOUSY PSYCHICS WHO CAN'T SAVE PEOPLE, ONES WHO GIVE IRRESPONSIBLE PREDICTIONS OR HAVE UNREASONABLY HIGH RATES

CORRECT

PAT

IT'S A WASTE TO KEEP YOU AS AN EDITOR OF AN ENTERTAIN-MENT MAGAZINE.

YOU'RE DIFFERENT THAN SEKIGUCHI -KUN

BUT WE SHOULD THINK OF ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH DOCTRINES AND FAITH AS SEPARATE

LASTLY, THE RELIGIOUS MEDIUM.. WE SHOULDN'T CRITICIZE THEM HALFHEARTEDLY IF THERE'S NO PROBLEM IN THEIR DOCTRINES OR IN THEIR WAYS OF PRACTICING FAITH

I THINK IT MEANT SOMETHING LIKE MYSTIC OR SUPER-NATURAL OR SOMETHING

OCCULT ORIGINALLY MEANT 'HIDDEN'

ARE YOU SAYING THAT WITH THE MEANING OF OCCULT IN MIND?

OH COME ON NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, A LIE IS A LIE

THAT KIND OF ATTITUDE OF APPROVING CONCEALED AREAS IS FEEDING THE OCCULTISTS

DURING THE RENAISSANCE, GREECE, ROME, THE ORIENT, AND ISLAMIC AREAS THAT HAD IDEAS THAT DEVIATED FROM EUROPE'S, WERE LOOKED OVER

THE FORMATION OF THE OCCULT WAS ROUGHLY SOMETIME AFTER THE RENAISSANCE.. AND THERE'S A REASON FOR THIS

DURING THE 19TH CENTURY, IT WAS LUMPED TOGETHER WITH SUCH THINGS AS ASTROLOGY, KABBALAH, AND EVOCATION BY THE HANDS OF PEOPLE LIKE ELIPHAS LEVI

IN THOSE TIMES, OCCULT MEANT ANTI -CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE

HOWEVER, THOSE IDEAS WERE QUICKLY BRANDED AS ANTI-CHRISTIAN

AFTER THAT, ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS WOULD BE CALLED OCCULT AND PUT UNDER THE SAME CATEGORY

AND IT WAS EVEN BRANDED AS UNNATURAL SCIENCE WHEN NATURAL SCIENCE WAS JUST STARTING TO RISE

IF YOU'RE GOING TO USE WORDS LIKE "OCCULT" AND CRITICIZE, YOU'RE FIRST GOING TO NEED TO FIND OUT IF IT'S REAL OR NOT

AND THAT IDEA CAME ALL THE WAY TO MODERN DAY JAPAN

AND GAVE BIRTH TO SOMEONE WITH A LACK OF UNDER-STANDING LIKE YOU, SEKIGUCHI -KUN

HUH. ? WELL

PRETER-NATURAL POWERS WOULD BE OCCULT, SINCE THEY HAVE NO TRICKS

I ... I KNOW WHAT'S OCCULT AND WHAT'S NOT

THEN LET ME ASK ARE PRETER-NATURAL POWERS OCCULT OR NOT?

RIGHT

SO TRICKS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT

THE MOMENT YOU SAY, "THERE ARE NO GIMMICKS", IT'S NOT OCCULT

THE OCCULT IS SOMETHING HIDDEN

SEE? YOU DON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

WHAT?

A PSYCHIC WILL PROTECT A SECRET CEREMONY WITH ALL THEIR LIFE AND A RELIGIOUS MEDIUM WILL NEVER SPEAK OF THE WAYS A MIRACLE HAPPENS

SOMETHING THAT S OCCULT IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD NOT BE SPOKEN OF OR QUESTIONED

THINGS THAT AREN'T ORIGINALLY OCCULT ARE BEING PUT UNDER THAT CATEGORY

IT'S WRONG TO DENY THE METAPHOR AND THOSE WHO TAKE THAT STORY AS IS AND START SAYING SO-AND-SO FROM THE SPIRITUAL WORLD'S MYSTIC POWERS HAVE DONE SOMETHING OR OTHER AND ARE FAKE

THE STORIES OF THE NEXT WORLD WERE ORIGINALLY ALL METAPHORS

AND WHEN I OPEN UP THE RADIO, I'M DIS-APPOINTED TO FIND OUT IT S JUST WORK NG ON ELECTRICITY

PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THE SYSTEM OF THE RADIO MAY SAY THAT THERE ARE GOBLINS INSIDE SINGING SONGS

TO DENOUNCE THAT, I WAS TRYING TO DENOUNCE THE RADIO ITSELF

F , FINE

SO THE OCCULT S LIKE A RADIO

TWO OF THE THREE WOMEN WITH SUPERNATURAL POWERS WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE EXPERIMENT

DIED

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE FUKURAI CASE BACK AT THE END OF THE MEIJI ERA?

NOT ONLY THAT,

THAT CASE WHERE AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT TEIOU UNIVERSITY DID SOME PHONY OPEN EXPERIMENT ON CLAIRVOYANCE AND LOST HIS POSITION?

THE FUKURAI CASE?

THAT WAS THE END FOR THE TWO OF THEM, WHO TOOK MORE CRITICISM AND SLANDER THAN THEY COULD HANDLE

MIFUNE CHIZUKO COMMITTED SUICIDE

NAGAO IKUKO BECAME ILL FROM ANXIETY AND DIED

IT'S UNKNOWN WHETHER OR NOT THE EXPERIMENT REALLY WAS RIGGED OR NOT

HOWEVER, WHAT IF THESE WOMEN ACTUALLY HAD SUPERNATURAL POWERS?

THAT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY

.....

AND AS A RESULT INNOCENT PEOPLE MAY HAVE BEEN FORCED TO THEIR DEATHS

ON AN ATTEMPT TO PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF PRETERNATURAL POWERS

THE PUBLIC REACTED WITH BIAS AND AGITATED THE MEDIA.

.....

AND SO, TORI-GUCHI -KUN

EVERYTHING COMES FROM IGNORANCE

WHO IS YOUR OPPONENT?

MOURYOU NO HAKO CH3A

SCANNER, TRANSLATOR, TYPESETTER: KURONEKO

CLEANER: DURZEGON

PROOFER: ELAGABALUS, KITTYANGEL23

DARKtower
scanlations

HELLO EVERYONE!
WE FINALLY BRING TO YOU MOURYOU CH3A :D
THIS CHAPTER TOOK FOREVER TO TRANSLATE AND I THINK YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY. I SUGGEST REREADING IT A COUPLE TIMES. I ALSO SUGGEST READING THE NOTES IN THE CHAPTER BECAUSE THEY SHOULD HELP UNDERSTAND SOME OF IT. IT'S REALLY HARD TO TRANSLATE RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL WORDS INTO ENGLISH BECAUSE THERE'S NOT AN EXACT TRANSLATION THAT WORKS OUT.
WE TRIED OUR BEST THOUGH, AND WE HOPE YOU ARE ABLE TO ENJOY THE CHAPTER.
THE NEXT CHAPTER... WELL PART WILL PROBABLY BE RELEASED AFTER A COUPLE OTHER RELEASES.

WE'RE STILL RECRUITING, SO SEND IN THOSE TESTS!

THANK YOU EVERYONE.

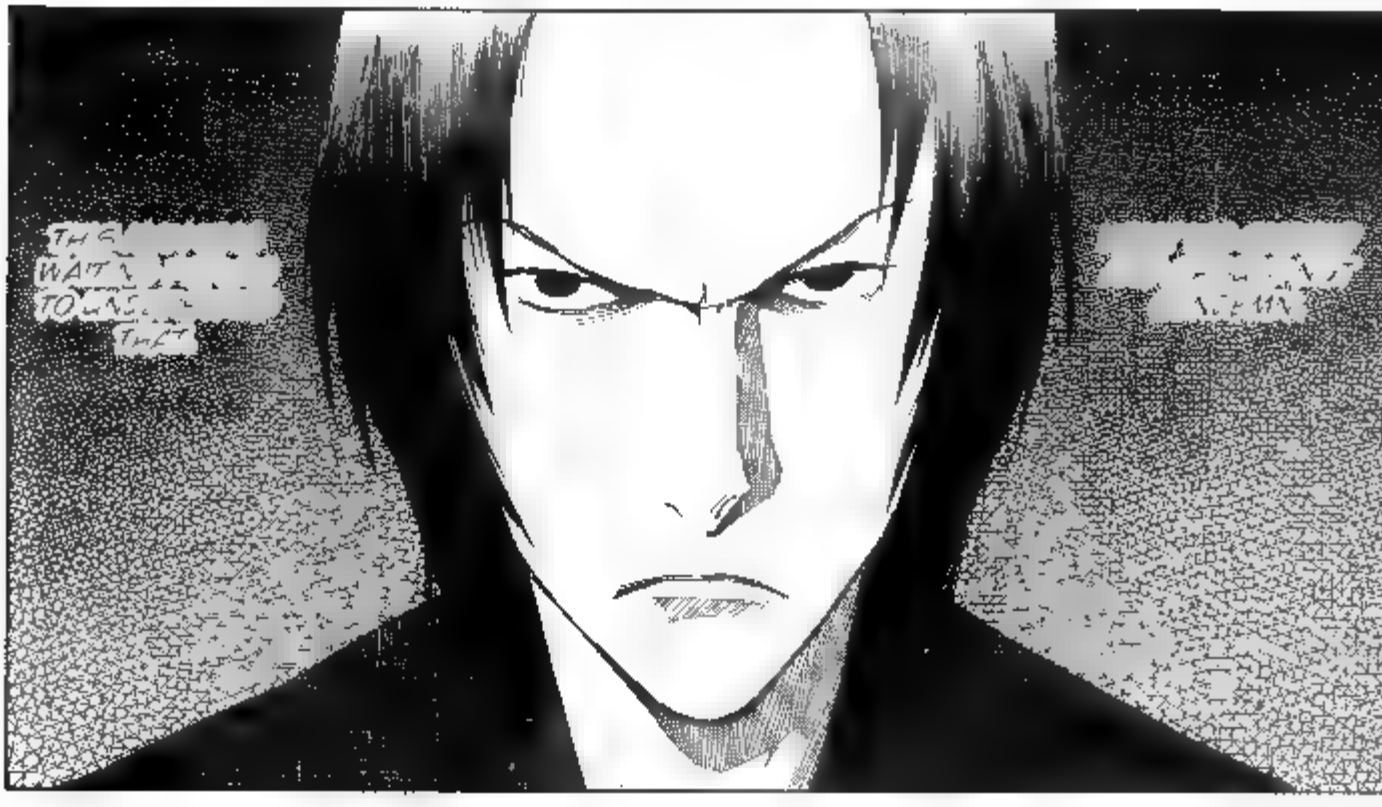
DARK TOWER SCANS IS NOW RECRUITING CLEANERS AND PROOFERS!!

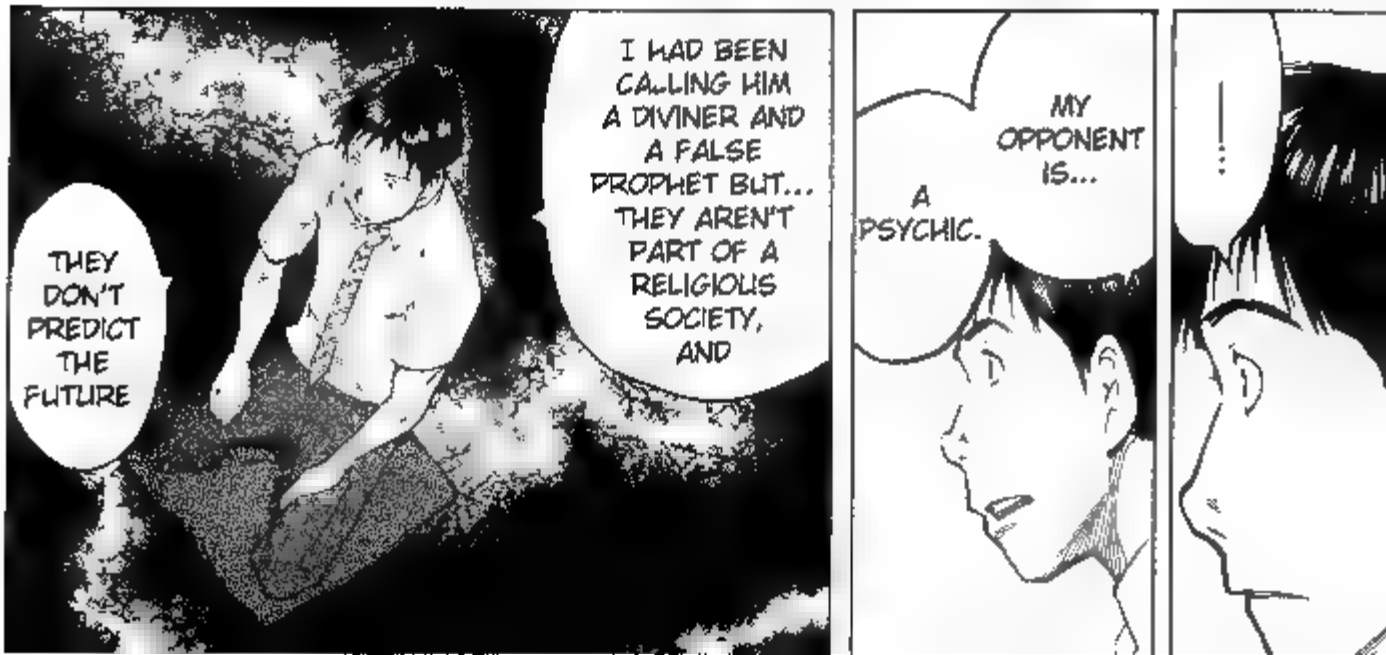
WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR ANYONE WHO HAS AN INTEREST IN THE POSITION OF CLEANER OR PROOFER. THE TESTS FOR TRYING OUT CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE IN THE NOTICES SECTION.

A PROOFER BASICALLY PROOFREADS WHAT THE TRANSLATOR HAS WRITTEN AND FIXES GRAMMAR AND ALSO CLARIFIES IF SOMETHING IS VAGUE. A CLEANER CLEANS THE PAGES OF THE MANGA AND ERASES THE TEXT IN THE BUBBLES AND ALSO REDRAWS AREAS THAT GOT ERASED ALONG WITH THE SFX. IF THIS SEEMS LIKE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO PLEASE TRY OUT :D

MANY THANKS!!

I SEE.
WE WERE ALREADY ON TOPIC FROM THE START

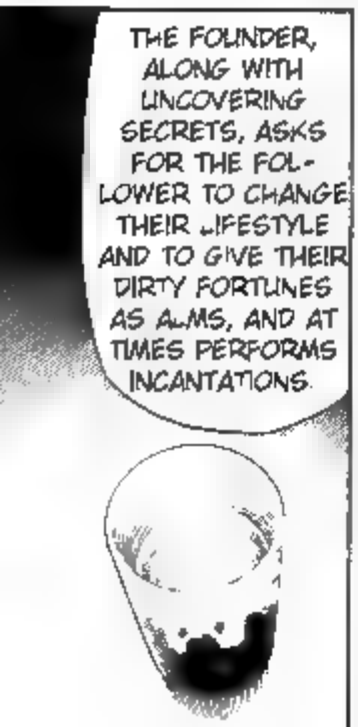


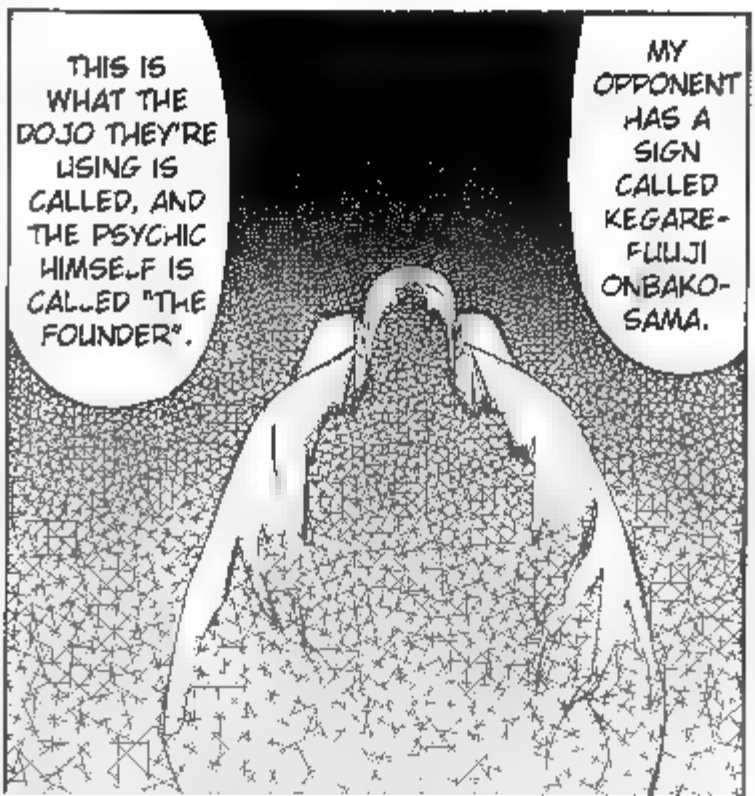

THEY DON'T PREDICT THE FUTURE
I HAD BEEN CALLING HIM A DIVINER AND A FALSE PROPHET BUT... THEY AREN'T PART OF A RELIGIOUS SOCIETY, AND
MY OPPONENT IS...
A PSYCHIC.
!!

HE DOESN'T CLAIM TO HAVE SOME SPECIAL ABILITY, SO HE'S NOT SOMEONE WITH SUPERNATURAL POWERS.
WHAT THIS MAN IS DOING IS TAKING AWAY OTHERS' MISFORTUNE... THEREFORE HE'S GIVING PEOPLE RELIEF.
HE'S ACTUALLY WORTH BRINGING TO KYOGOKUDO
WELL THIS IS SURPRISING... TORIGUCHI IS BRIGHTER THAN I THOUGHT...
THEREFORE, FROM WHAT I'VE JUST HEARD FROM YOU, I SHOULDN'T DISCLOSE OR DENOUNCE THEM HALF-HEARTEDLY.
HE HAS QUITE A FEW FOLLOWERS AND I HAVEN'T HEARD OF ANY COMPLAINTS.
I'M GUESSING THAT SAYS THAT MANY OF THEM HAVE BEEN SAVED BY HIM.
NOW, THAT THIS STORY'S OVER,
I CAN FINALLY BRING UP MY BUSINESS OF THE ORDER OF MY SHORT STORIES...

BUT CHUUZENJI-SAN,
I WANT TO EXPOSE THIS PSYCHIC TO THE PUBLIC ANYWAYS.
I NEED SOME OF YOUR WISDOM.

I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR REASONS, TORIGUCHI-KUN...

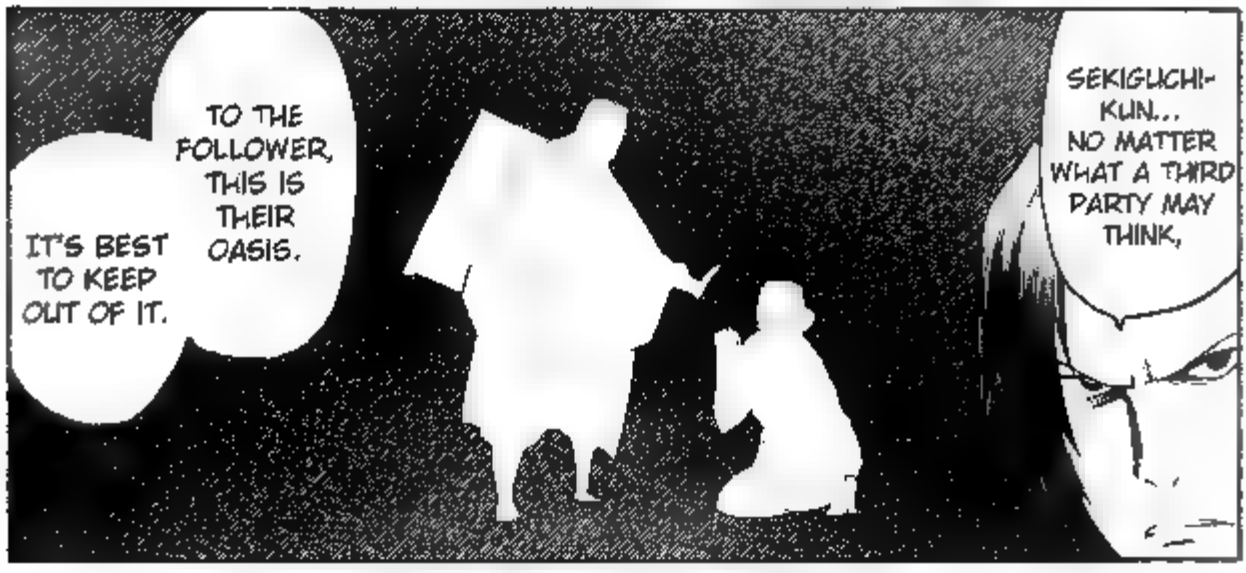

THE FOUNDER, ALONG WITH UNCOVERING SECRETS, ASKS FOR THE FOLLOWER TO CHANGE THEIR LIFESTYLE AND TO GIVE THEIR DIRTY FORTUNES AS ALMS, AND AT TIMES PERFORMS INCANTATIONS.


THIS IS WHAT THE DOJO THEY'RE USING IS CALLED, AND THE PSYCHIC HIMSELF IS CALLED "THE FOUNDER".
MY OPPONENT HAS A SIGN CALLED KEGARE-FUUJI ONBAKO-SAMA.

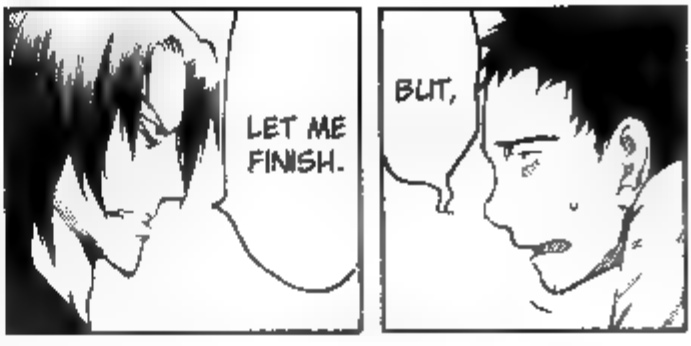
!!!

"THE DIRTY MONEY BRINGS IN BAD LUCK." IS WHAT HE SAYS.
SO THE FOUNDER TAKES CARE OF THAT MONEY AND PUTS IT IN A SACRED BOX FOR A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME TO PURIFY IT.
HOW MUCH... ARE THESE ALMS?
AS MUCH AS THE FOLLOWER WANTS TO PAY. IT COULD BE 5 OR 10 YEN.
BUT THERE'S A TRICK THERE.
AND SO, THOSE WHO GAVE UP ONLY A LITTLE OF THEIR FORTUNE HAVE NO CHANGES IN THEIR LIVES.
INGEN-IOUS!
RIGHT?
IT MUST HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF THE AMOUNT.
"IF I GIVE UP MORE IT SHOULD GET BET-TER," THEY THINK
AND THEN IT WORKS LIKE METH-AMPHET-AMINE
EVERY TIME THEY GO BACK, THEY INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT THEY GIVE, BUT THE AMOUNT OF HAPPINESS THEY ARE ABLE TO BUY GOES DOWN. AND THE BAD LUCK THAT COMES BACK AT THEM DOUBLES AND THEN IT STARTS ALL OVER AGAIN

OR THEY'LL FALL INTO A BOTTOMLESS PIT OF MISFORTUNE WHILE TRYING TO REACH FOR HAPPINESS...
WE HAVE TO DISENCHANT THOSE FOLLOWERS FAST
THAT'S HORRIBLE.. THAT'S SOME COMFORT THAT THEY'RE GIVING.

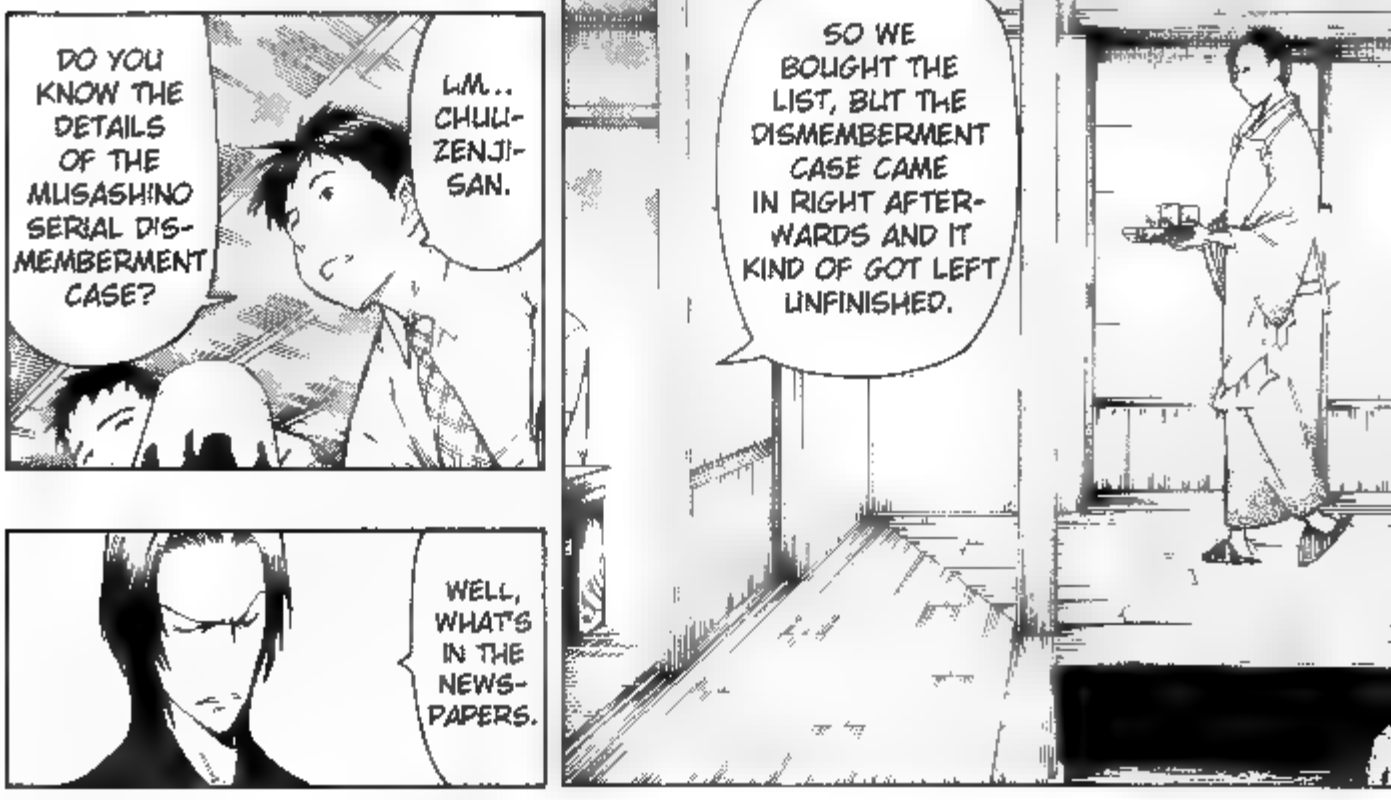


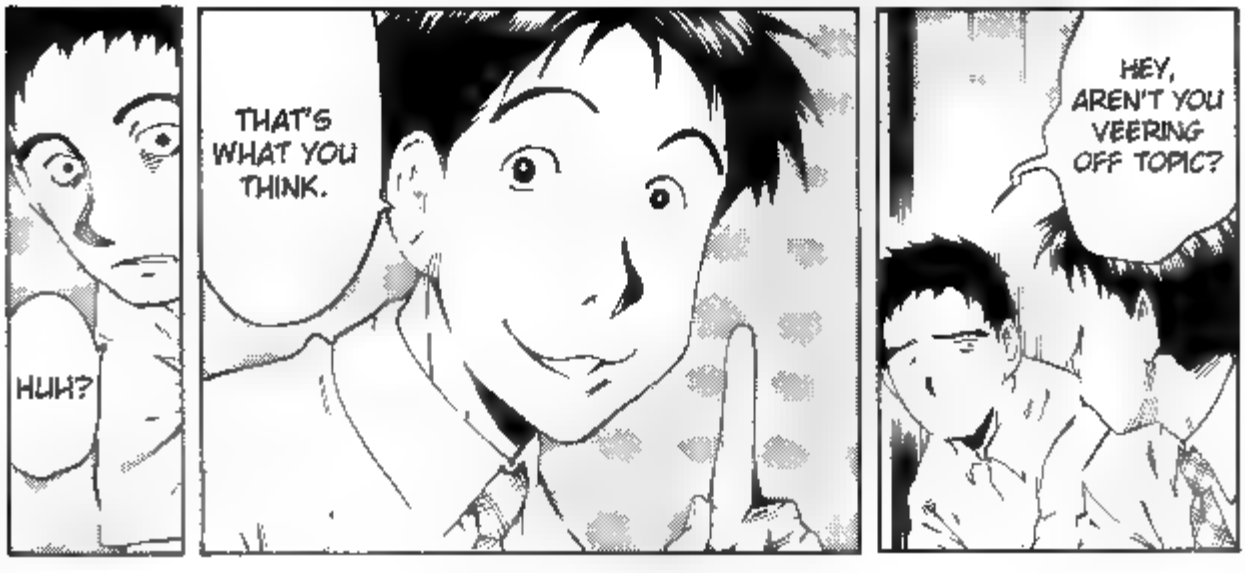
NOTE: ODAKYU APPEARS TO BE A TYPE OF ELECTRIC TRAIN LINE. HE'S REFERRING TO THE ACCIDENT KANAKO WAS INVOLVED IN.

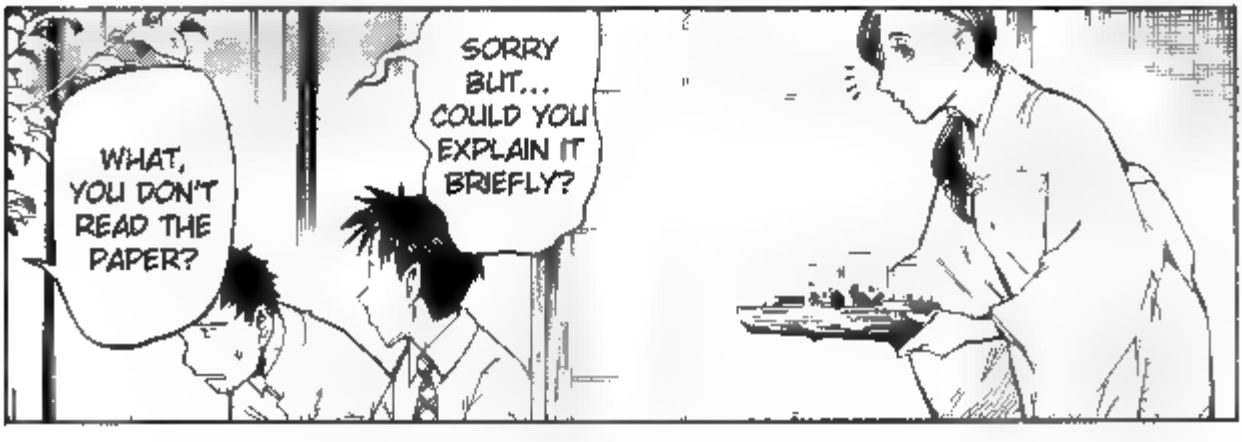


THE LIST OF ONBAKO-SAMA'S FOLLOW-ERS?
YEAH.
I DID SOME RESEARCH AND ADDED MORE DETAIL TO IT.
THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL THE FOLLOWERS, THE AMOUNT AND NUMBER OF TIMES THEY'VE GIVEN ALMS IN JUNE AND JULY
OH... THIS IS THE NAME OF THAT SINGER..
THEY... DID SOME-THING TO THEM?
THE FOLLOWERS WITH SMALLER DONATIONS ALWAYS HAVE SOMETHING BAD HAPPEN TO THEM..

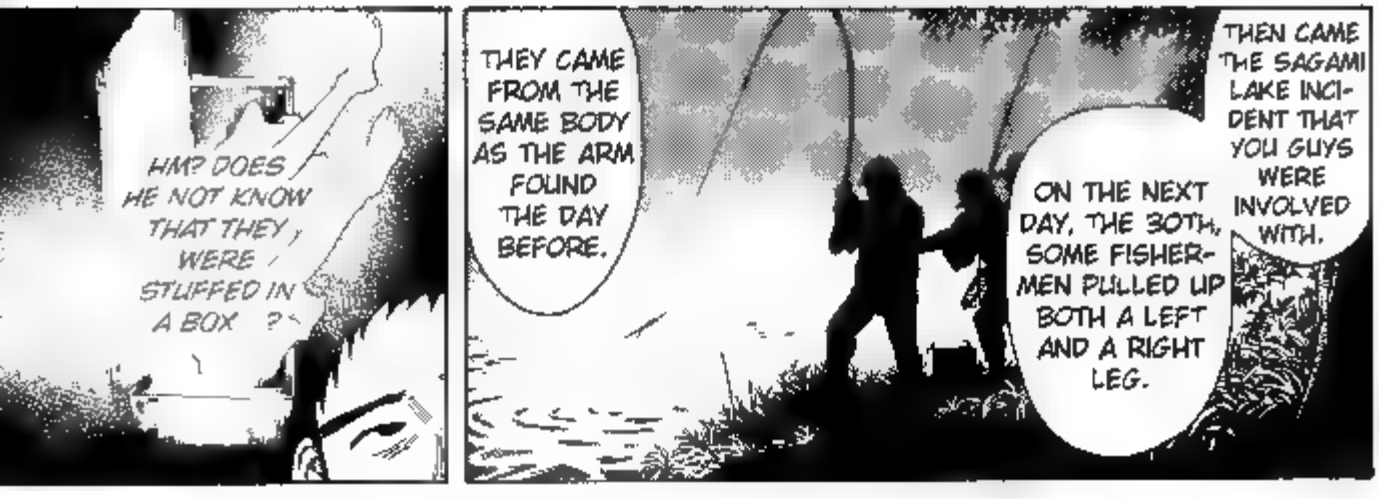
HMM...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THERE'S THE NAME OF A KNOWN MEMBER OF THE DIET
AND EVEN THE MAINSTAY OF A FAMOUS TEMPLE...
HOW MUCH?
HOWEVER MUCH.
BUT I NEED YOU TO USE THIS AS BACKING
AND WRITE AN ARTICLE ON THE SUBJECT.

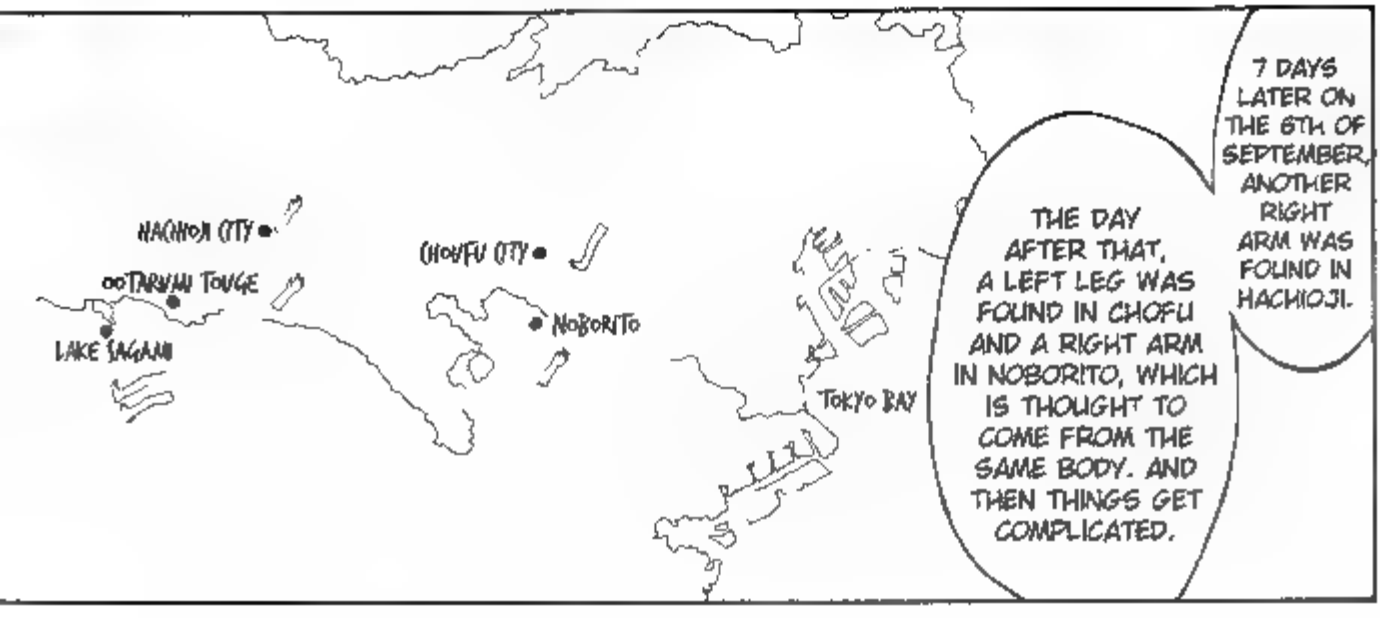

DO YOU KNOW THE DETAILS OF THE MUSASHINO SERIAL DISMEMBERMENT CASE?
UM.. CHUU-ZENJI-SAN.
SO WE BOUGHT THE LIST, BUT THE DISMEMBERMENT CASE CAME IN RIGHT AFTERWARDS AND IT KIND OF GOT LEFT UNFINISHED.
WELL, WHAT'S IN THE NEWSPAPERS.

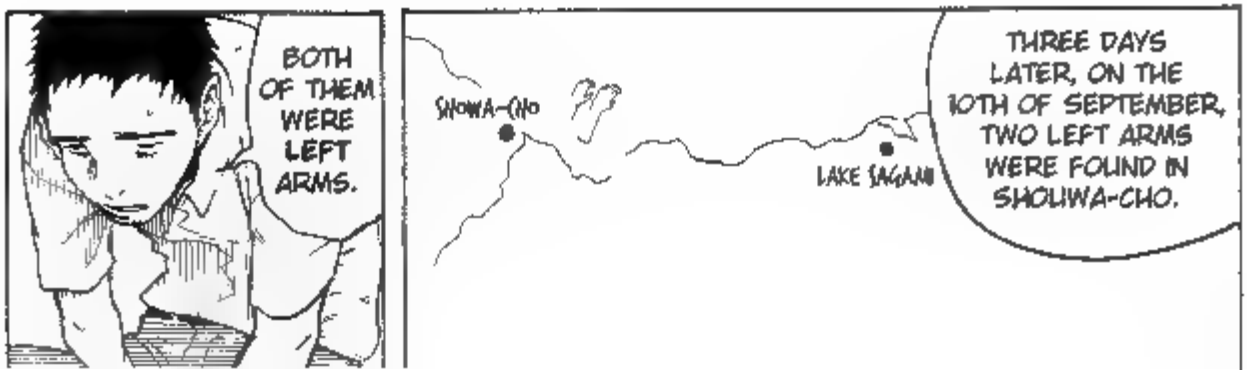

HUH?
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK.
HEY, AREN'T YOU VEERING OFF TOPIC?


WHAT, YOU DON'T READ THE PAPER?
SORRY BUT... COULD YOU EXPLAIN IT BRIEFLY?

I DIDN'T KNOW...
A LUMBER DEALER FOUND IT ON THE PEAK OF THE KOSHU HIGHWAY.
IT ALL STARTED WITH THE DISCOVERY OF A RIGHT ARM ON AUGUST 29TH.


HM? DOES HE NOT KNOW THAT THEY WERE STUFFED IN A BOX ?
THEY CAME FROM THE SAME BODY AS THE ARM FOUND THE DAY BEFORE.
ON THE NEXT DAY, THE 30TH, SOME FISHERMEN PULLED UP BOTH A LEFT AND A RIGHT LEG.
THEN CAME THE SAGAMI LAKE INCIDENT THAT YOU GUYS WERE INVOLVED WITH.


HACHIOJI CITY
TARUMI TOUGE
LAKE SAGAMI
CHOUFU CITY
NOBORITO
TOKYO BAY
THE DAY AFTER THAT, A LEFT LEG WAS FOUND IN CHOFU AND A RIGHT ARM IN NOBORITO, WHICH IS THOUGHT TO COME FROM THE SAME BODY. AND THEN THINGS GET COMPLICATED.
7 DAYS LATER ON THE 6TH OF SEPTEMBER, ANOTHER RIGHT ARM WAS FOUND IN HACHIOJI.


BOTH OF THEM WERE LEFT ARMS.
SHOWA-CHO
LAKE SAGAMI
THREE DAYS LATER, ON THE 10TH OF SEPTEMBER, TWO LEFT ARMS WERE FOUND IN SHOWA-CHO.

DATE	LOCATION FOUND	LIMB FOUND
9/13	KURUMAGAESHI	3RD PERSON'S RIGHT ARM
9/14	ROKA KOUEN	3RD PERSON'S RIGHT LEG
9/16	TANASHI	4TH PERSON'S RIGHT ARM
9/19	YANAGISAWA	4TH PERSON'S LEFT ARM
9/21	TAMA REIEN	3RD PERSON'S LEFT LEG
9/2.	TANASHI	4TH PERSON'S RIGHT LEG

I'LL SKIP THE REST.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AFTER AN ANALYSIS, THE ARMS WERE FOUND TO BELONG TO THE SECOND AND THIRD VICTIMS.

AND AFTER THAT, IT BECAME THE SENSATIONAL "MUSASHINO SERIAL DISMEMBERMENT CASE."

YOU SHOULD TRY READING THE NEWSPAPER.

I'M SURPRISED YOU REMEMBER ALL THIS.

AND ACTUALLY... THAT BECOMES THE LINK BETWEEN VICTIMS.

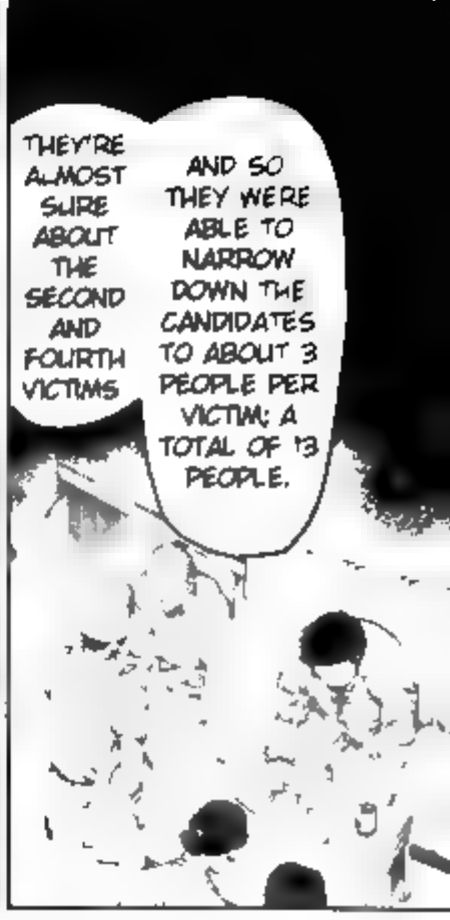
IF I WERE TO ADD ONE MORE THING, IT WOULD BE THAT THE IDENTITIES OF THESE 4 VICTIMS ARE STILL UNKNOWN.

I'M INTRIGUED.

OH?

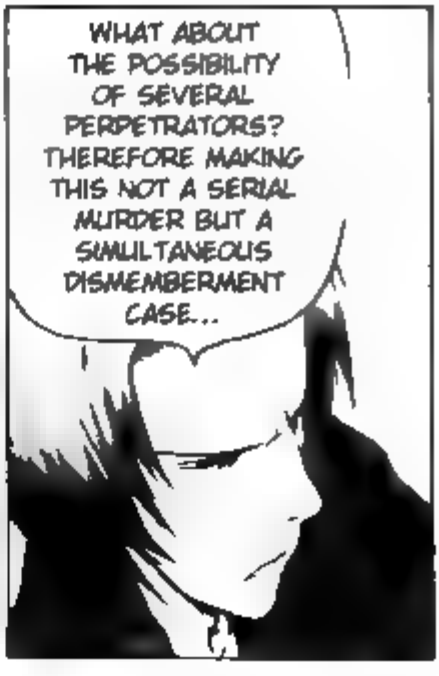
I WAS WAITING FOR YOUR TALK TO BREAK OFF.
I BROUGHT SOME MORE TEA.
BEFORE THAT,
CHI-ZUKO.
SO THEY EXPANDED THE INVESTIGATION AREA TO INCLUDE THE ENTIRE KANTO DISTRICT AND LOOKED FOR MISSING GIRLS THAT FIT THE DESCRIPTION OF THE VICTIMS.
AT FIRST, THE KANAGAWA POLICE HEADQUARTERS WERE HAVING TROUBLE IDENTIFYING THE VICTIMS.

BUT...
THESE GIRLS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON WITH EACH OTHER.
DIFFERENT ADDRESSES, DIFFERENT ENVIRON-MENTS.
NO CONNEC-TIONS.
BUT IS THAT REALLY SO...?


THEY'RE ALMOST SURE ABOUT THE SECOND AND FOURTH VICTIMS
AND SO THEY WERE ABLE TO NARROW DOWN THE CANDIDATES TO ABOUT 3 PEOPLE PER VICTIM; A TOTAL OF 13 PEOPLE.

SO... THE MURDERER FROM AT LEAST THE SECOND VICTIM ON HAS TO BE THE SAME PERSON.

THEY'VE DETERMINED THAT THE SAME WEAPON WAS USED ON BOTH THE SECOND AND FOURTH VICTIMS.
THEY SAID IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE A HATCHET
AND THE SECOND AND THIRD VICTIMS' LEFT ARMS WERE FOUND IN THE SAME PLACE, TIED TOGETHER.


WHAT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SEVERAL PERPETRATORS? THEREFORE MAKING THIS NOT A SERIAL MURDER BUT A SIMULTANEOUS DISMEMBERMENT CASE...

THAT WAS CONSIDERED BUT... NO.

AND THE FINGERPRINTS THEY TOOK WHEN SHE WAS ARRESTED HELPED IDENTIFY HER.
AAH
THE FOURTH VICTIM WAS A DELINQUENT DAUGHTER OF A PHOTO STUDIO OWNER. SHE WAS 15 AND HAD BEEN PULLING A BADGER GAME
SO WHO WAS THAT GIRL THEY WERE SURE ABOUT...?

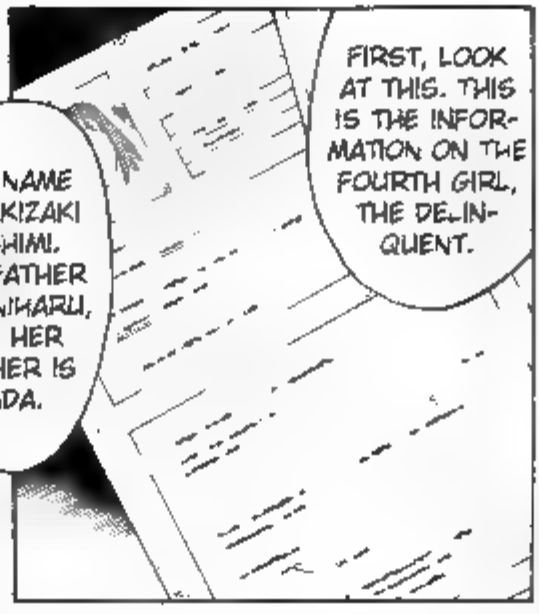
SHE HAD GOOD CONDUCT BUT... SHE'D RUN AWAY FROM HOME BEFORE
SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER IN HANNOU.. SAITAMA.
THE SECOND VICTIM WAS IDENTIFIED BY A BRUISE.
IT'S NOT VERY LEGAL BUT .
WELL ACTUALLY,
HEHEHEH
YOU SURE KNOW YOUR DETAILS.

I GOT THIS FROM AN INSIDE MAN ON THE POLICE FORCE.
IT'S A LIST OF MISSING GIRLS.

SO YOU TALKED YOUR WAY THROUGH ..?
WELL.. HE'S ACTUALLY A REALLY GOOD PERSON.

WELL, THIS MAN'S ACTUALLY JUST A POLICEMAN IN MEGURO BUT...

HER NAME IS KAKIZAKI YOSHIMI. HER FATHER IS KUNIHARU, AND HER MOTHER IS SADA.

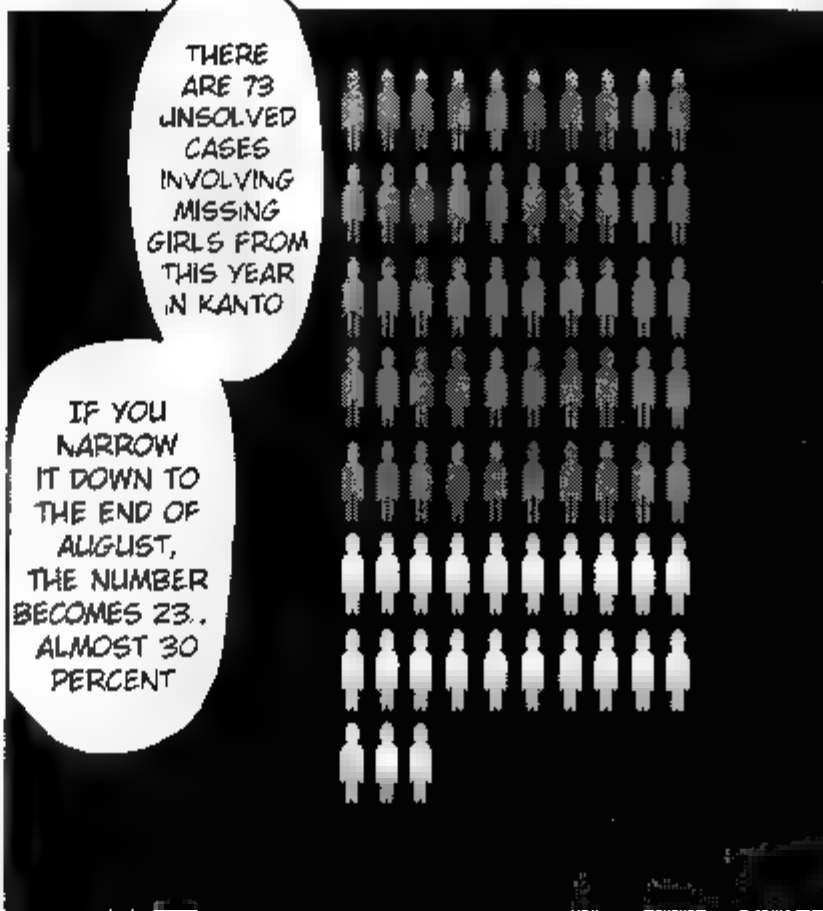

FIRST, LOOK AT THIS. THIS IS THE INFORMATION ON THE FOURTH GIRL, THE DELINQUENT.

NOW, WE HAVE TWO UNRELATED DOCUMENTS.

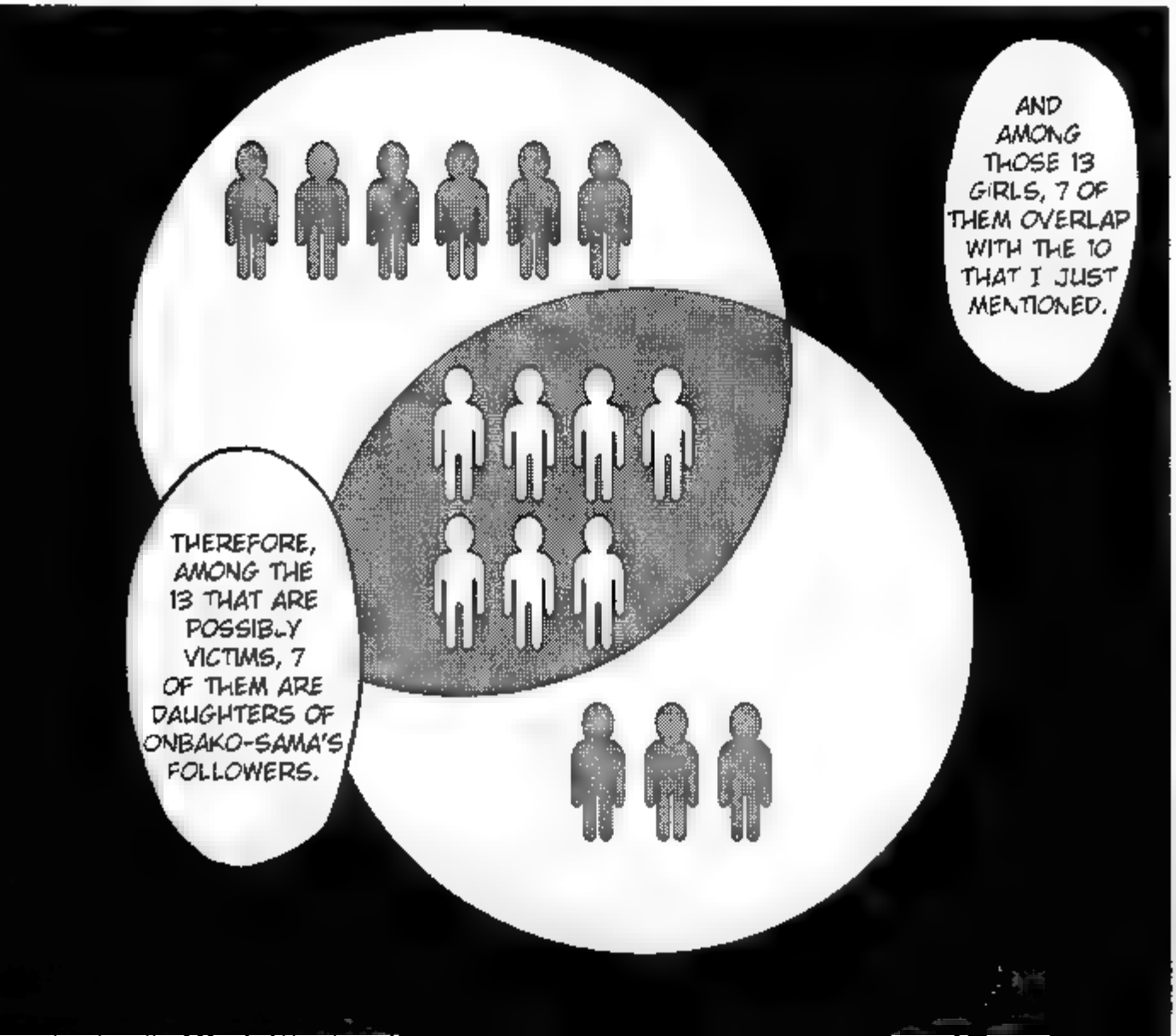
KAKIZAKI SADA
KANAGAWA KAWASAKI CITY NAKAHARA-KU 5TH STREET
KAKIZAKI SADA.
KAKIZAKI YOSHIMI'S MOTHER
TARO
NOW LOOK AT THIS LIST.
AND THEN I REMEMBERED.
AFTER THE FAMOUS SINGER'S NAME...
"DAUGHTER IN DANGER"
HAS A DAUGHTER ARRESTED FOR PROSTITUTION PERHAPS IT'S THE MOURYOU
HAS A DAUGHTER ARRESTED FOR PROSTITUTION PERHAPS IT'S THE MOURYOU DAUGHTER IN DANGER
DAUGHTER IN DANGER...
POSSIBILITY OF AN ACCIDENT HAPPENING IN THE NEAR FUTURE CAUTION
WIFE OF THE PHOTO STUDIO OWNER. HAVING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES PERHAPS THIS IS THE REASON OF THE LACK OF DONATIONS

AND I THOUGHT MAYBE,
THESE TWO DOCUMENTS WERE CONNECTED.
AND THAT IS CORRECT.

10.
AND WITHIN THESE 73, THE NUMBER OF NAMES THAT OVERLAP WITH THE LIST OF ONBAKO-SAMA'S FOLLOWERS IS...


THERE ARE 73 UNSOLVED CASES INVOLVING MISSING GIRLS FROM THIS YEAR IN KANTO
IF YOU NARROW IT DOWN TO THE END OF AUGUST, THE NUMBER BECOMES 23. ALMOST 30 PERCENT

AND ONE MORE THING,
THE NUMBER OF GIRLS THE POLICE HAVE PUT UP AS VICTIM CANDIDATES ARE 13.
YOU COULD SAY THAT THAT'S QUITE A FEW CONSIDERING THE SCALE.
THERE HAVE BEEN ACCIDENTS IN THE FORM OF MISSING DAUGHTERS AMONG 10 OF THE 300 FOLLOWERS OF ONBAKO-SAMA.
IS THAT... A LOT?


AND AMONG THOSE 13 GIRLS, 7 OF THEM OVERLAP WITH THE 10 THAT I JUST MENTIONED.
THEREFORE, AMONG THE 13 THAT ARE POSSIBLY VICTIMS, 7 OF THEM ARE DAUGHTERS OF ONBAKO-SAMA'S FOLLOWERS.

I SEE...
YOU'VE FOUND THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE VICTIMS THAT THE POLICE HAVE YET TO NOTICE

IF I MAY ADD THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE GIVEN VERY SMALL CONTRIBUTIONS IN JUNE AND JULY'S DAUGHTERS HAVE GONE MISSING

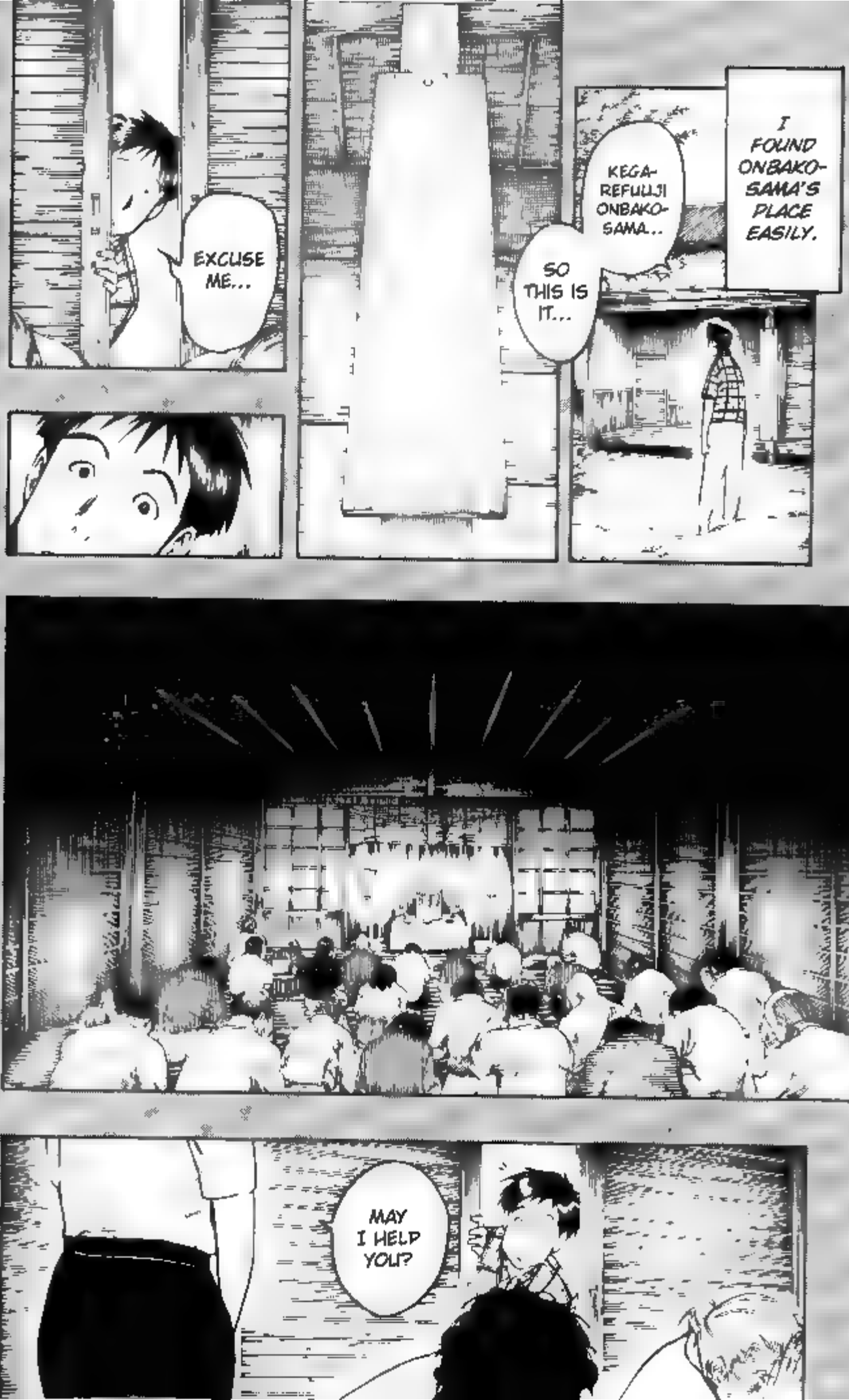
SO...
I THINK THAT THE CULPRIT OF THE MUSASHINO SERIAL DISMEMBER-MENT CASE IS THE FOUNDER OF THE ONBAKO-SAMA CULT.
NO, WHETHER THEY ARE THE ACTUAL ONES EXECUTING THIS I DON'T KNOW, BUT,
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT ONBAKO-SAMA HAS SOME-THING TO DO WITH THE MUSASHINO SERIAL DISMEMBER-MENT CASE...?

BUT AS A CRIMINAL.

I WANT TO EXPOSE ONBAKO-SAMA NOT AS A PSYCHIC,

YOU...
YOU'RE AMAZING, TORIGUCHI-KUN!
THIS IS HUGE!
LET'S HEAR THE DETAILS.
THAT'S HOW IT IS
REGULATIONS ARE GETTING STRICT
IF YOU WRITE AN ARTICLE FROM MERE IDEAS LIKE THESE, YOUR MAGAZINE WILL BE CRUSHED IN AN INSTANT.
SEKIGUCHI-KUN, HE HAS MERELY GOTTEN A VERY INTERESTING IDEA FROM THE DOCU-MENTS HE HAPPENED TO OBTAIN.
NOT A CHANCE THIS DOESN'T COUNT AS EVIDENCE.
AHAHA
AND BESIDES, IF THIS COUNTED AS EVIDENCE, I'D HAVE GIVEN IT TO THE POLICE BY NOW.
IT'S A CITIZEN'S DUTY!
IF IT'S COINCIDING THIS MUCH, IT'S GOTTA BE EVIDENCE!

I'M SAYING THAT WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION ON HAND TO CONSIDER THIS EVIDENCE.
AND EVEN THIS LIST MAY BE A FAKE.
BUT...
SO TORIGUCHI-KUN... WHAT DID YOU TRY TO DO FIRST?
OH...
I GOT THE LIST FROM THE POLICE TWO DAYS AGO... AT 3:00 ON THE 20TH.
I CAME TO MY IDEA THAT ONBAKO-SAMA IS THE CULPRIT TWO HOURS AFTER THAT
AND I COULDN'T HELP IT, SO I WENT TO MITAKA.
EVEN IF IT GOT ME NOWHERE.


EXCUSE ME...
SO THIS IS IT...
KEGA-REFULUJI ONBAKO-SAMA..
I FOUND ONBAKO-SAMA'S PLACE EASILY.
MAY I HELP YOU?

I'VE HAD A LOT OF HARD-SHIPS LATELY.
MY COMPANY'S NOT DOING WELL AND MY HEALTH ISN'T GOOD EITHER.
UMM...
AND I WANTED THE FOUNDER TO TAKE A LOOK AT ME...
THEN MAY I HAVE YOUR CONTACT INFORMA-TION?
WE'LL MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AND I WILL CALL TO TELL YOU THE DATE AND TIME
AH, OK...
JUST A MOMENT PLEASE.
PLEASE GO HOME FOR TODAY.

HEY TORI-CHAN, THE PHONE!
I CALLED MY LANDLORD IN A HURRY AND ASKED THEM TO BE CAREFUL OF ANY SUSPI-CIOUS PHONE CALLS AND WENT HOME
TLUMP
TLUMP TLUMP
WE CAN SEE YOU NOW IF YOU'D LIKE
OK! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT FOR THE PERSON BEFORE YOU TO FINISH
BAM
TLUMP TLUMP

I SEE, THIS IS A TRAP.
YES, WELL...
YOU SAID THAT YOU HAD SOME MISHAPS OCCURRING.
IS THAT SOME KIND OF INCANTATION .?
BANG
TUUNK
BAM
BANG
TUWONK
BANG
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
NIGATA.
I CAN'T EVEN SEND MONEY TO MY MOTHER BACK HOME.
I SELL TOOTHBRUSHES FOR A COMPANY THAT MAKES THEM, AND THE SALES HAVE PLUMMETED RECENTLY.
I SEE THAT'S QUITE UNFORTUNATE
OH! TUMP
I GET HIT BY CARS, CAUGHT IN THE MUCK, AND GET CHASED BY DOGS ALMOST EVERYDAY...
AND ON TOP OF THAT, I'M NOT FEELING TOO GREAT
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE..
WHEEZE
COUGH COUGH

THIS WAY, PLEASE. HAVE A SEAT.
THERE ARE BOXES EVERY-WHERE..

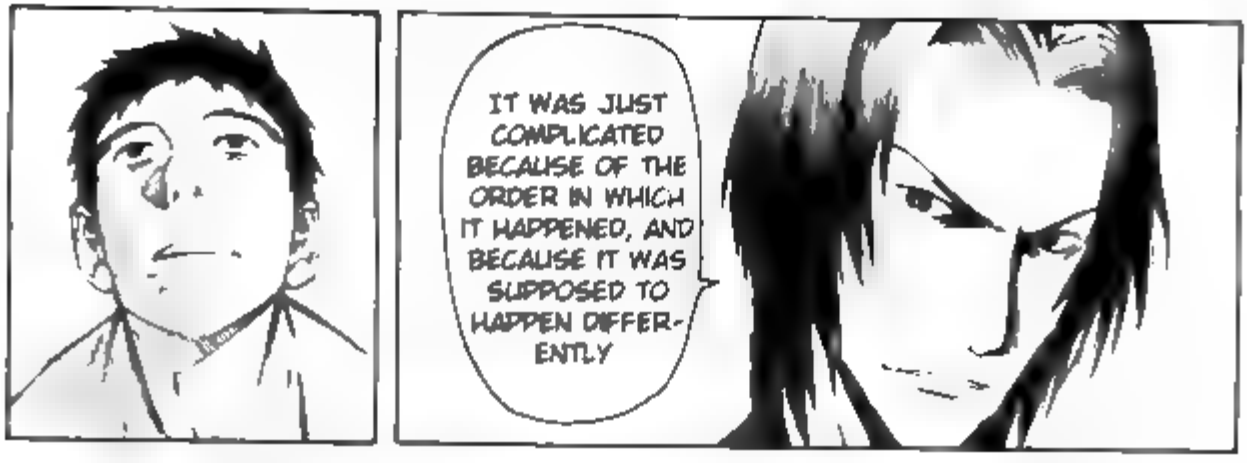
WAAA

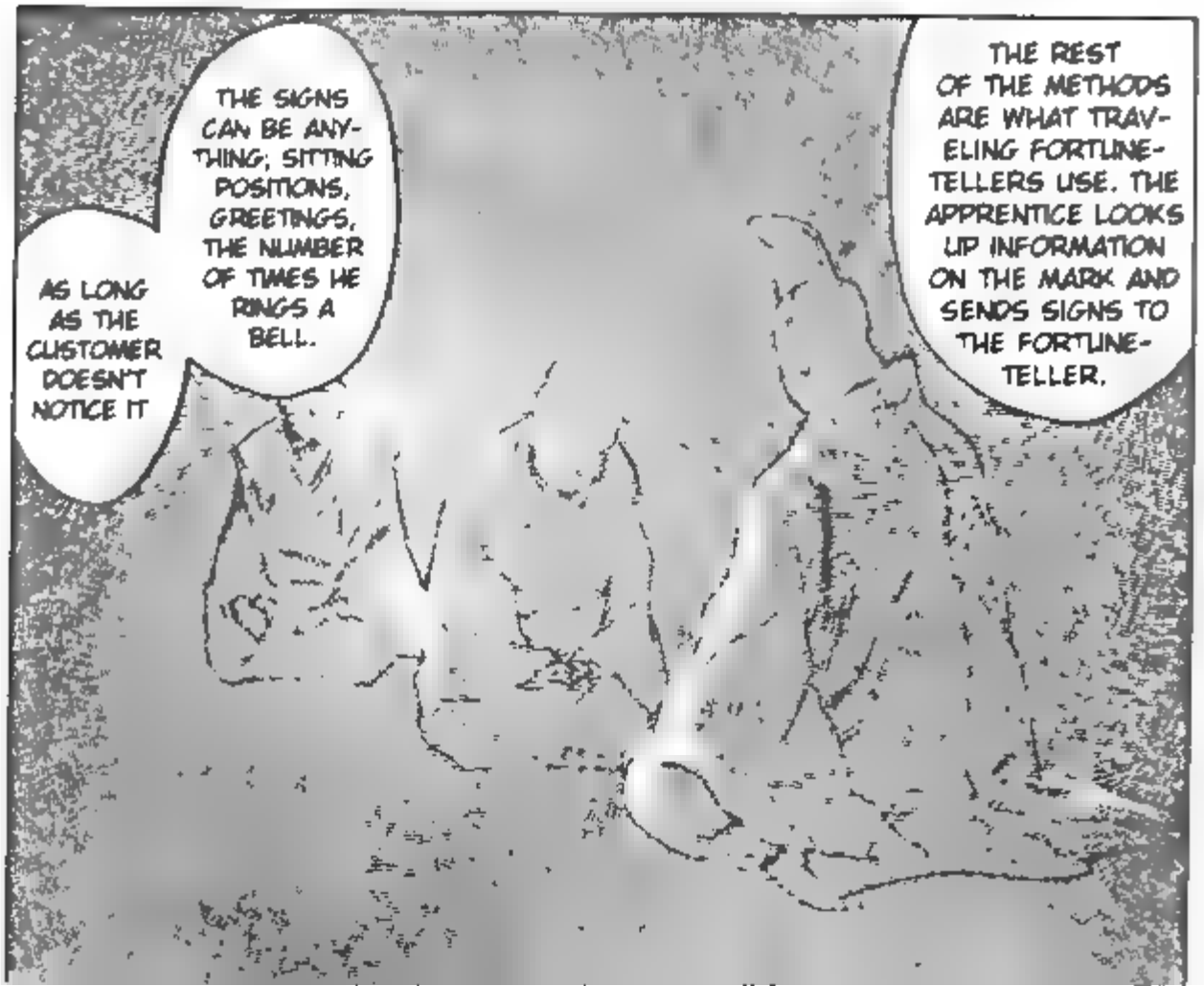
JITSUROKU HANZAI—
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR!?
!?
!?

BUT I HAVE NO IDEA HOW THEY FOUND OUT ABOUT ME.
...AND WELL, I LEFT AFTER THAT.

THAT PROBABLY WON'T ARRIVE.
THERE WAS ONE AT THE EDITING OFFICE... SOMETHING ABOUT A PACKAGE BEING SENT FROM MY FAMILY TO THE OFFICE...
WERE THERE ANY CALLS FROM ELSEWHERE? PERHAPS A FAMILY MEMBER FROM THE SUBURBS.
AFTER YOU GAVE HER THE NUMBER, SHE PROBABLY CALLED YOUR LANDLORD RIGHT AWAY.
THEY PROBABLY GOT IT FROM YOUR LANDLORD.
WHAT? THEN THAT PHONE CALL...
BUT HOW DID THEY GET THEIR NUMBER?
AH~
HE TOLD HER THE NUMBER!
SHE SAID SHE WANTS TO SEND A PACKAGE, BUT IF YOU'RE AWAY DURING THE DAY SHE'D SEND IT TO YOUR COMPANY
THERE WAS A CALL FOR TORI-CHAN FROM YOUR SISTER.
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT.

AND I THOUGHT I WAS BEING CAREFUL!
THE KEY TO FAKE CALLS ARE TO CALL WHEN THEY AREN'T HOME AND TO PRETEND TO BE A FAMILY MEMBER
LISTEN, TORIGUCHI-KUN.


IT WAS JUST COMPLICATED BECAUSE OF THE ORDER IN WHICH IT HAPPENED, AND BECAUSE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN DIFFERENTLY


AS LONG AS THE CUSTOMER DOESN'T NOTICE IT
THE SIGNS CAN BE ANYTHING; SITTING POSITIONS, GREETINGS, THE NUMBER OF TIMES HE RINGS A BELL.
THE REST OF THE METHODS ARE WHAT TRAVELING FORTUNE-TELLERS USE. THE APPRENTICE LOOKS UP INFORMATION ON THE MARK AND SENDS SIGNS TO THE FORTUNE-TELLER.

WELL, THAT CLEARED IT UP.
AH, I SEE...
IF THE WOMAN SAT BEHIND YOU, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW IF SHE WAS MOUTHING SOMETHING.
WERE ALL THE BOXES LINED UP IN THERE SQUARE ONES?
BY THE WAY...
KYOGOKUDO IS ACTUALLY THINKING DEEPLY. HOW RARE.
HOW IT'S WRITTEN SIGNIFIES A ROUND BAMBOO BOX BUT
THE WORD FOR "BOX"...
NO, THEY WERE ALL WHAT WE WOULD NORMALLY CONSIDER BOXES...
IS THERE SOME-THING WRONG?
WERE THERE ANY THAT LOOKED LIKE HAT BOXES?

:
:

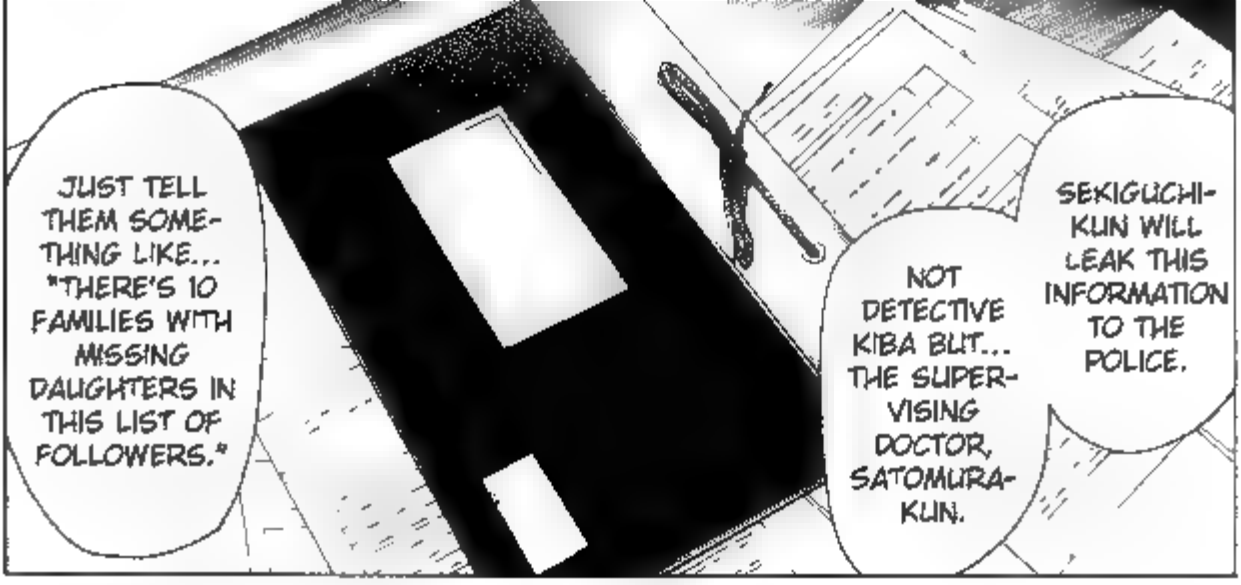
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

IF YOU'RE REALLY UP FOR IT, I'LL LEND A HAND.
WHAT-EVER.

AND WE WOULD NEED TO FOLLOW THE DISMEMBER-MENT CASE AT THE SAME TIME...
BUT RIGHT NOW, WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION ON ONBAKO-SAMA.

I...
I DON'T NEED ANY OTHER ISSUES ON MY PLATE.
MY HANDS ARE FULL WITH MY BOOK
B... BUT I...
SEKIGUCHI-SENSEI TOO! PLEASE LEND ME A HAND!
HUH!?

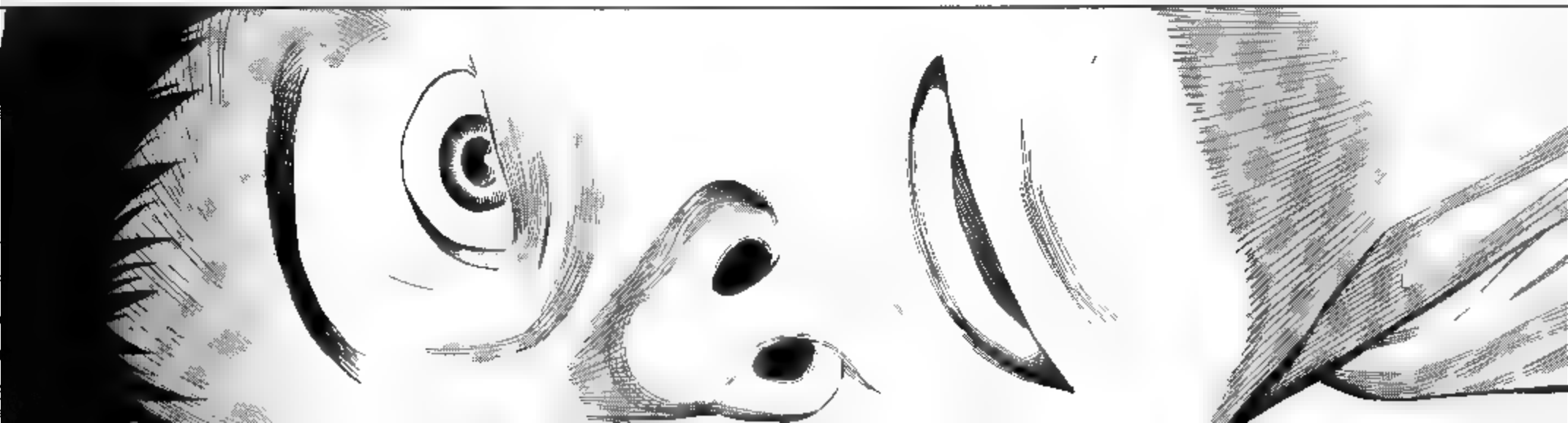
I WANT TO LOOK INSIDE THE BOX...


SEKIGUCHI-KUN WILL LEAK THIS INFORMATION TO THE POLICE.
NOT DETECTIVE KIBA BUT... THE SUPER-VISING DOCTOR, SATOMURA-KUN.
JUST TELL THEM SOME-THING LIKE... "THERE'S 10 FAMILIES WITH MISSING DAUGHTERS IN THIS LIST OF FOLLOWERS."

WE NEED THE FOUNDER OF ONBAKO-SAMA'S PROFILE.
I'LL LET TORIGU-CHI-KUN HANDLE THIS.
RIGHT.
AND ABOUT ONBAKO-SAMA'S ABILITIES— ABOUT THE KINDS OF MIRACLES HE PERFORMS—

...HM?

KUBO SHUNKOU



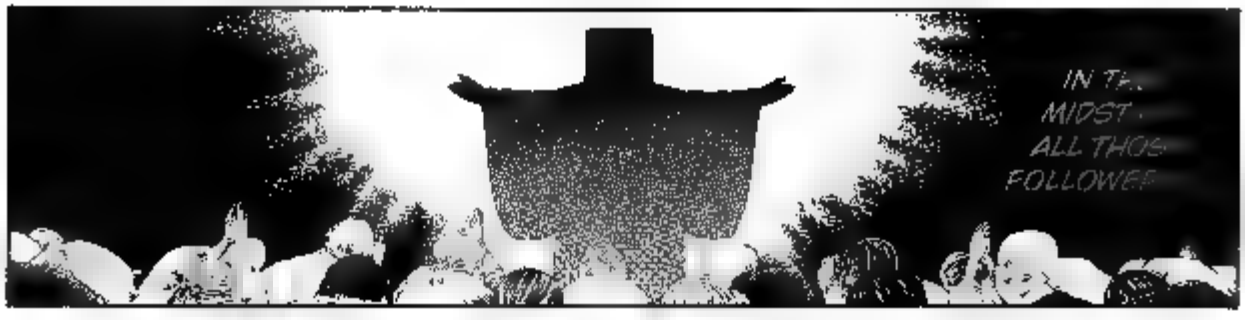
KUBO SHUNKOU? THAT NEW FANTASY NOVELIST?

HEY SEKIGUCHI-KUN, ARE YOU LIS-TENING?

SEKIGUCHI-KUN
WHY IS THAT MAN IN THE ONIBAKU-SAMA CULT...?

KUBO...
SHUN-KOU..

ANY PROBLEMS THAT HE WOULD NEED TO RELY ON SOMEONE FOR.
THAT MAN DOESN'T HAVE

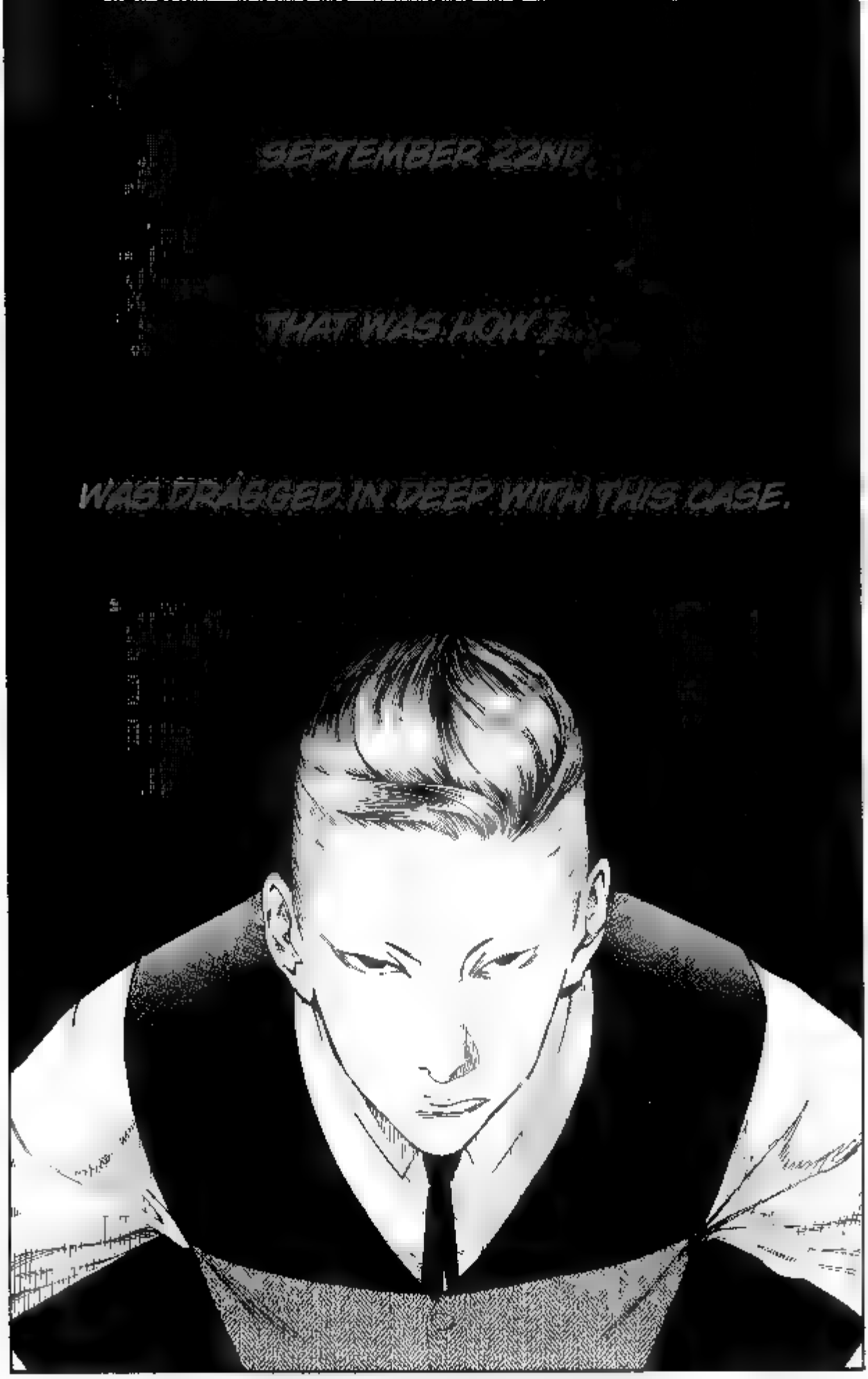

IN TH
MIDST
ALL THOS
FOLLOWE

THAT MAN...

THERE ARE BOXES INSIDE BOXES AND WHAT'S THERE?
AT THE VERY CENTER.
IS THIS THE DREAM I SAW EARLIER?

BOX?

BOWING TO THE BOX.


SEPTEMBER 22ND.
THAT WAS HOW I...
WAS DRAGGED IN DEEP WITH THIS CASE.

THE GIRL INSIDE THE BOX

PART 1

Hello, the manuscript
This is the manuscript
I promised. I would have it
though I'd to you by hand
through mail
a month
n Dec
by September
hould reach your
by September
for your under
here I
standing, please
yumi Tamagawa-sama
Kubo Shunkan

I HAD OCD AS A CHILD.

EVERYTHING HAD TO BE

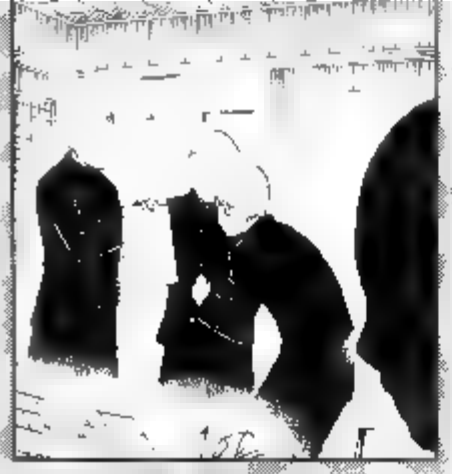
PERFECT OR ELSE I DIDN'T

FEEL WELL

I'D RATHER HAVE

NOTHING IN IT THAN

HAVE AN OPEN SPACE.



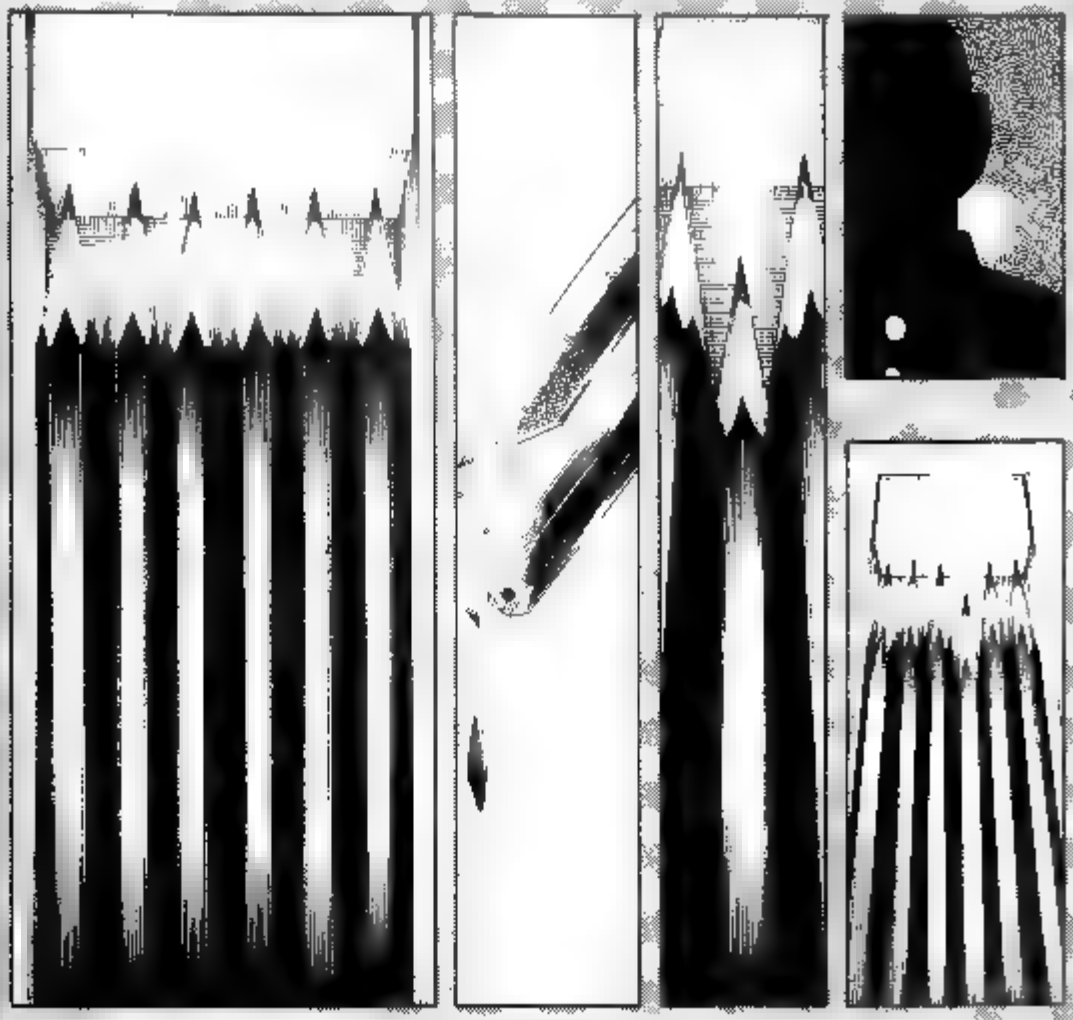
I ALWAYS NEEDED A PERFECT SCORE ON TESTS

I LEARNED THE MORE I FILLED UP MORE MY MIND

A 90 LEAVES LOOPOINTS OF SPACE

I GRADUATED AS VALEDICTORIAN, BECAME A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AND COMPLETED MY JOB PERFECTLY

I WAS SATISFIED AND HAPPY



MY FATHER DIED

I WAS ALONE IN A LARGE HOUSE.

THE EMPTY ROOMS.

THE EMPTINESS BEHIND THE DOORS.

EMPTY

EMPTY

EMPTY

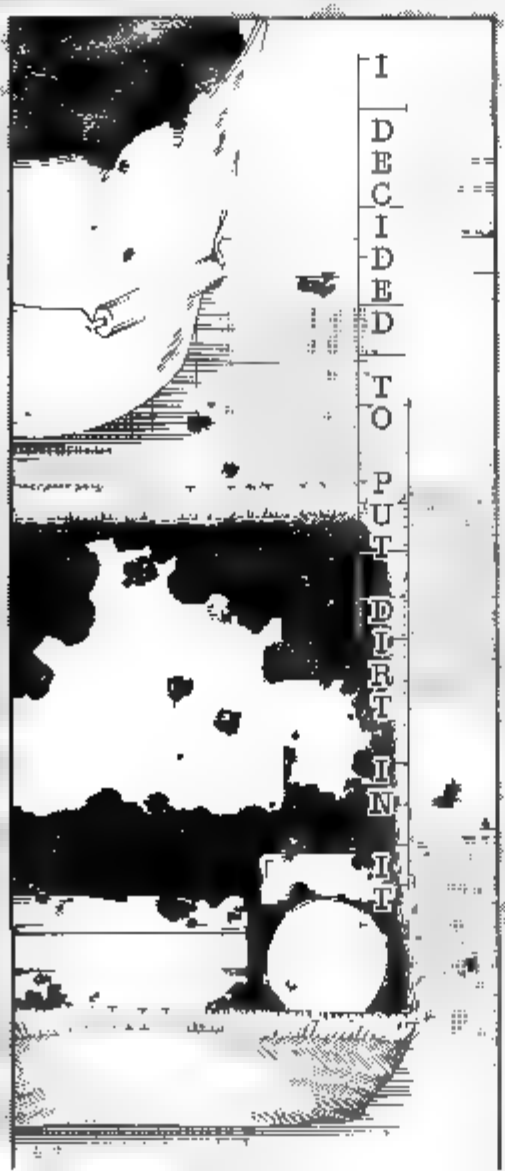
EMPTY

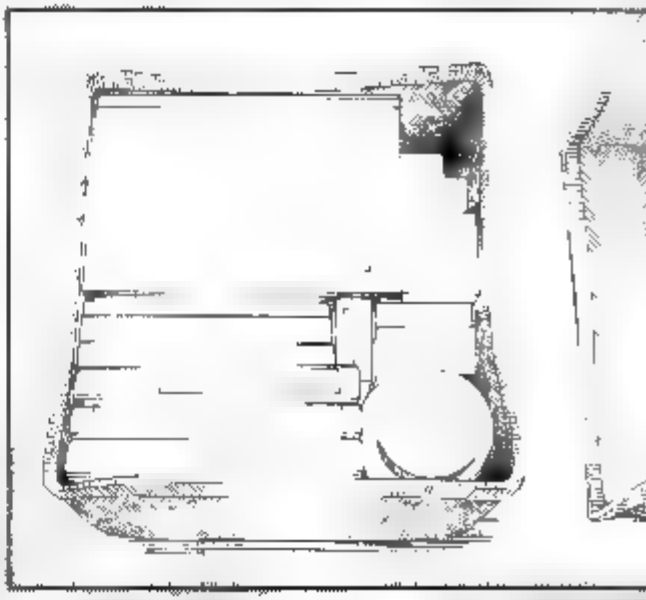
1- GET OUT OF HERE!

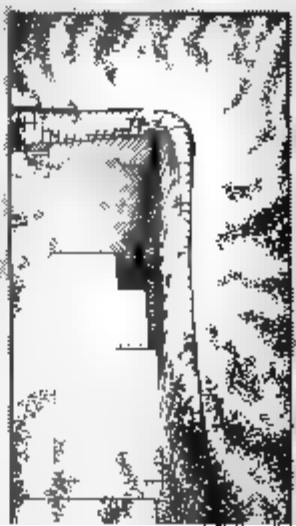
2- HIDE AWAY!

3- WAIT FOR HELP!

PACKED IT CAREFULLY WITH DIRT


I DECIDED TO PUT DIRT IN IT





THE RELIEF.

LIKE INSIDE MY MOTHER'S WOMB

THERE'S
STILL
SPACE

PUT A
PERFECTLY
FITTING FOX
INSIDE THE CLOSET
AND PACK IT
WITH DIRT
AND SIFT
INSIDE

I AM AN
I WAIT AT
THAT
MY

THE NEXT DAY,
I WAS ABLE
TO RETURN
TO MY WORK
LIKE NEVER
BEFORE.

I WORKED HARD TO FILL UP THE HALF MONTH THAT WAS LEFTBLANK AFTER MY FATHER'S DEATH

I WAS STABLE

I SPENT THE DAYS WITHOUT WASTING ANY TIME THAT WAS IMPORTANT

NOT EVEN A SECOND COULD BE WASTED

A YEAR AFTER MY FATHER'S DEATH, A TELEGRAM ARRIVED

THERE HAD BEEN ANOTHER DEATH

I HURRIED HOME
MY GRANDMOTHER DIED

MOURYOU NO HAKO CH38

SCANNER, TRANSLATOR: KURONEKO

CLEANER: YAZOO

PROOFER, TYPESETTER: ELAGABALUS

DARKtower
scanlations

HELLO EVERYONE,

HERE'S CHAPTER 3B OF MOURYOU NO HAKO.

JUST AS A NOTE, I SPLIT CHAPTER 3 INTO 2 PARTS BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO CUT KYOGOKUDO'S EXPLANATION IN THE MIDDLE AND HAVE EVERYONE WAIT FOREVER FOR THE NEXT PART. I THOUGHT IT WAS BEST TO JUST GO THROUGH THAT ALL AT ONCE, WHICH IS WHY CHAPTER 3A AND B ARE KIND OF LONG.

SO JUST DON'T SAY "WHERE'S PART C?" BECAUSE PART B IS THE END OF THIS CHAPTER.

ALRIGHT THANKS, AND ENJOY :D

RECRUITING CLEANERS!!

DARK TOWER SCANS IS STILL RECRUITING CLEANERS!
A CLEANER'S JOB IS TO ERASE THE DIALOGUE IN THE SPEECH BUBBLES AND ALSO TO EDIT OUT SFX AND FIX THE ART. DON'T FORGET TO LEVEL THE PAGES OUT TOO. WE DON'T WANT BLACK SPECKS IN THE WHITE AREAS OR WHITE SPECKS IN THE BLACK AREAS.

IF YOU THINK YOU'RE SKILLED WITH PHOTOSHOP OR OTHER EDITTING SOFTWARE, FEEL FREE TO DOWNLOAD THE TEST AT OUR SITE.

ONCE YOU FINISH, SEND IT TO OUR EMAIL DARKTOWER.SCANS@GMAIL.COM.
IF YOU PASS YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL FROM US.

THANKS!!

Bouryou no Hako Ch 4A

SCANNER, TRANSLATOR: KURONEKO
PROOFER: OSPER, ELAGABALUS
CLEANER: YAZOO
TYPESETTER: ELAGABALUS

DARKtower
scanlations

KIBA, ONE MONTH SUSPEN-SION

BECAUSE OF HIM, WE COULDN'T ORGANIZE SECURITY!!

!!

!!

THAT'S IT!? HE INTERRUPTED GOVERNMENT BUSINESS!

I'VE HAD E-NOUGH

KIBA, YOU CAN GO.

THERE'S EVEN A POSSIBILITY THAT HE'S THE SUSPECT!!

THAT'S WHY WE RESTRICT-ED--

...

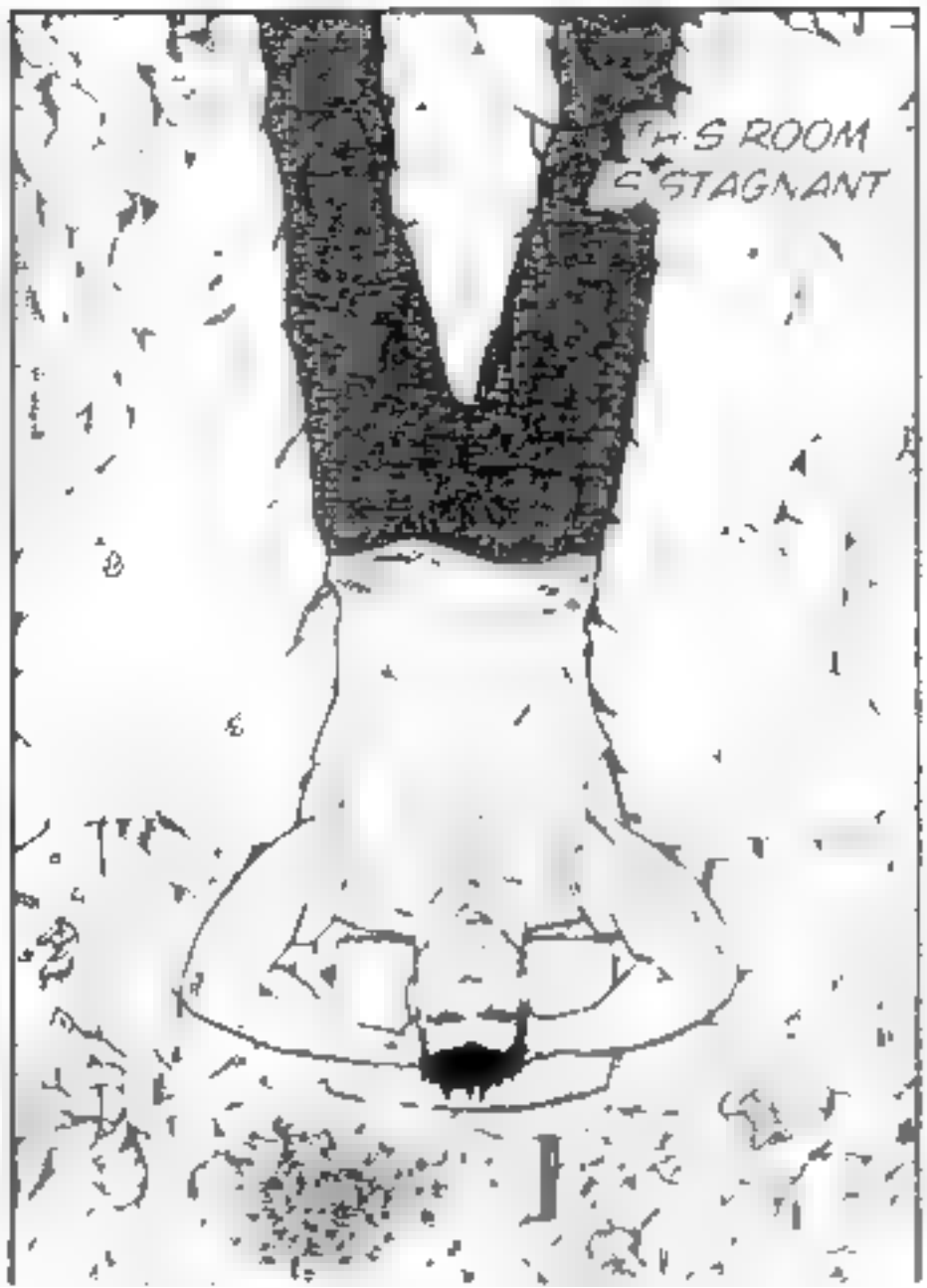
WHY DON'T YOU THANK HIM A LITTLE?

KIBA GAVE YOU AN EXCUSE FOR YOUR FAILURE.

WAIT! OOSHIMA-SAN!! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE-

!!

AND SO
AM I


THIS ROOM
IS STAGNANT

I WONDER HOW THE INVESTIGATION IS GOING

ALREADY 3 WEEKS SINCE MY SUSPENSION

24

9 4 3 2 1 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30

THAT TIME KANAKO—

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I THINK IT OVER,

DISAPPEARED—

LIKE SOME KIND OF MAGIC TRICK...

KUSUMOTO YORIKO WHAT WAS WITH HER EXPRES-SION..?

-1

WHEN DID HE..?

IS GONE. AMEMIYA...

THE NOISE WAS PRETTY LOUD BUT .

NOT EVEN THE IV HAD FALLEN OVER .

BUT I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING LIKE IT BREAK-ING.

THAT'S PART OF HER CAST?

THE BLANKET THAT WAS PUT OVER. KANAKO—

KANAKO, I WAS HERE FOR SURE

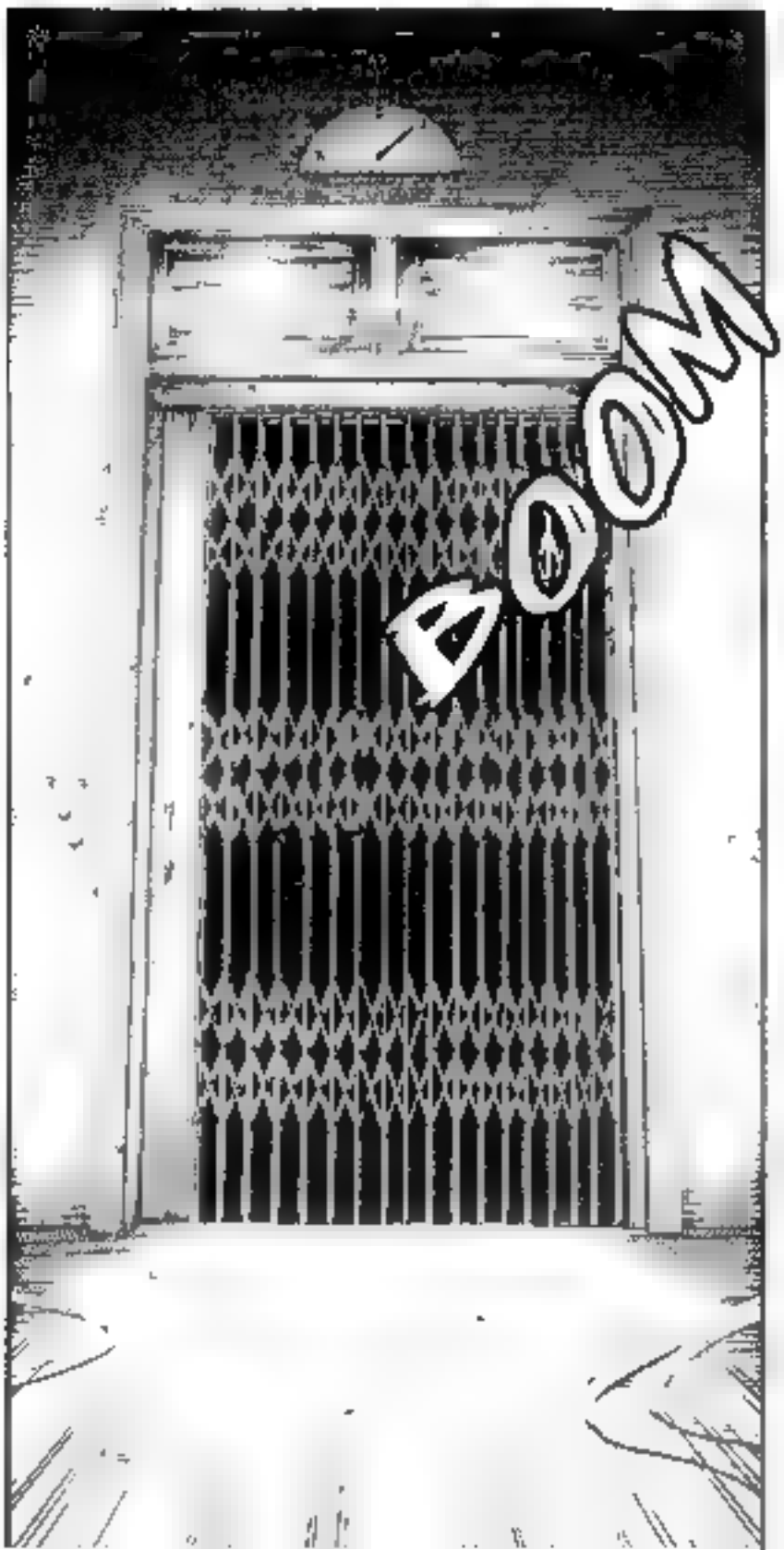
IT'S STILL WARM

?

SOME-THING'S STRANGE

THE DEPRESSION OF THE CASTS ON HER ARMS AND LEGS?

UH...
UM..


BOOM

...

KI... KIBA-SAN, WHAT'S GOING...

WHERE S SUZAK

T...TAKE THESE FOUR TO THE WAITING ROOM!

BANG BOOM

AND HE WAS HOLDING A SMALL MACHINE N HIS HANDS

HE WAS ON THE FLOOR

...

SHUT UP!!

WHY DID THIS-?

DE- DETECTIVE KIBA.

WH- WHAT'S GOING ON?

...

YUZUKI YOUKO .. IS SHE TOO SHOCKED ABOUT THE DISAPPEARANCE TO SAY ANYTHING ?

BOOM BOOM

I'M THE ONE WHO WANTS TO ASK THAT QUESTION, IDIOT

PALE.

KIBA-
SAN...

I HEARD HE WENT OUT IN EXCHANGE WITH THE HEAD.

HE SUPPOSEDLY LEFT THROUGH THE BACK DOOR.

AMEMIYA-SAN...

WHERE IS AMEMIYA-SAN...

BOOM

BOOM

AT A... TIME LIKE THIS...

WHERE DID HE...

YOUKO-SAN... CAN YOU EXPLAIN IN MORE DETAIL?

PLEASE.

ISHII WON'T BE ABLE TO GET KANAKO BACK.

I SAID *SHUT UP!!*

BUT IT'S ABSURD TO KIDNAP SOMEONE IN THAT CONDITION.

IF THE HOSTAGE DIES, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO RANSOM...

THIS ISN'T A KIDNAPPING...

IT'S MURDER.

DOESN'T HE REALIZE HOW CAREFULLY I'M CHOOSING WORDS HERE?

I KNOW THAT

WON'T DIE? DOES THAT MEAN THAT KANAKO HAS HEALED THAT MUCH?

KANA-KO...

WON'T DIE

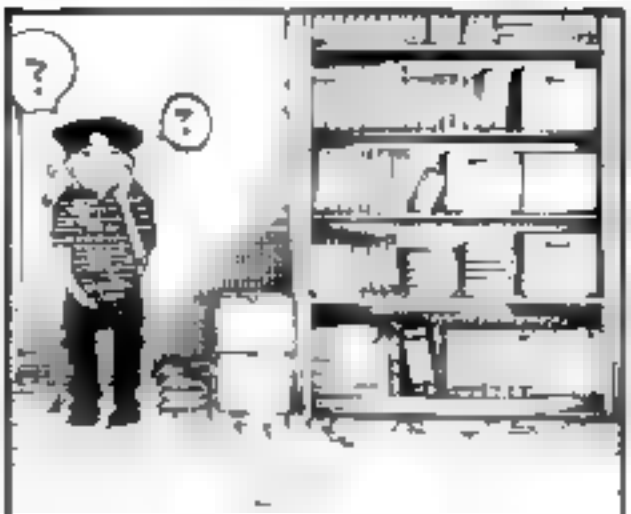
THAT EASILY --

UMM..

?

THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT IF SHE'S RECOV-ERED.

HEALED



KANAKO WILL NOT DIE,

ONEE-SAN.

JUST LIKE HOW KANAKO WAS A PUPA AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT AND FINALLY BECAME A BUTTERFLY TODAY, SHE BECAME A CELESTIAL MAIDEN AND FLEW UP INTO THE SKY

KANAKO CANNOT BE UNHAPPY, WILL NOT AGE, AND WILL NOT DIE.

IT'S CALLED *UKA TOUSEN.*

IF KANAKO WERE TO DIE AS A HUMAN BEFORE SHE FINISHES HER METAMORPHOSIS INTO A HEAVENLY BEING—

BUT I WAS WORRIED AT ONE POINT BECAUSE OF THAT MAN DRESSED IN BLACK.

KUSUMOTO YORIKO ..

I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS GIRL

YE... YES

SO KANAKO WON'T DIE.

RIGHT?

SO THAT'S HER REA-SONING

BUT F AN UNHAPPY KANAKO GETS NTO AN ACCiDENT YORiKO W LL BE UNHAPPY IN HER NEXT LIFE

YORIKO SHOULD BE ABLE TO BECOME HAPPY IF SHE GETS REINCARNATED AS KANAKO.

AND SO SHE BRINGS UP UKA TOUSEN.

THEN YORiKO WOuLD BE UNHAPPY FOREVER

AND IF KANAKO DIES, YORIKO WOuLD BE REINCAR-NATED AS HERSELF AGA.N.

AND THE CELESTIAL MAIDEN WILL BE REINCARNATED AS YORIKO

HOW IDIOTIC.

YORIKO DIES TO BECOME KANAKO,

AND KANAKO LIVES TO BECOME A CELESTIAL MAIDEN.

...AM I NUISANCE?

ISH! I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND KANAKO-SAN.

KIBA-SAN—

LIKE YORIKO-SAN SAYS,

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE US ALONE.

SO IT'S USELESS TO GO LOOK FOR HER, MR. DETECTIVE.

THEN WHY?

I... KNOW THAT.

YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND HER.

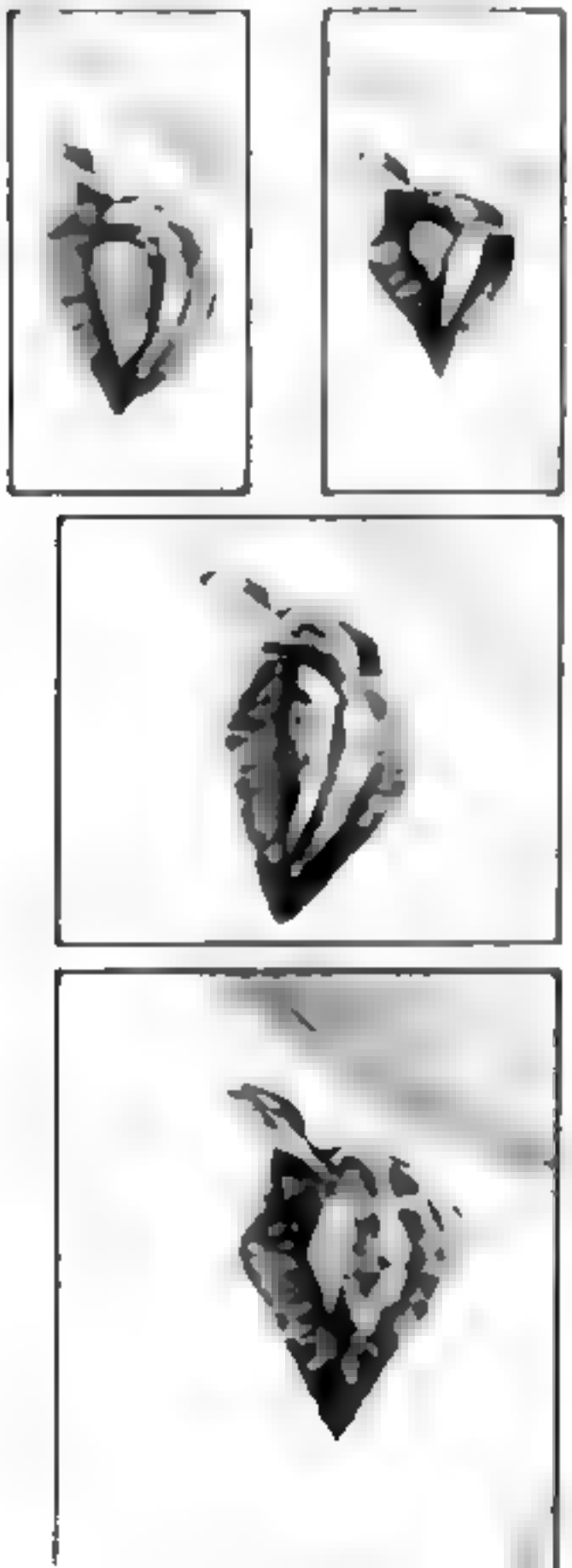
YOUR ENEMY,

...

THAT'S—

THE ONE WHO DID ALL THIS.

WHO IS IT?



IT WAS YOU...

YO...

SWING

!

SUZAKI—

HAA
HAAH
PRO-
FESSOR
MIMA-
SAKA—
DID
SOME-
THING
HAPPEN?

SUZAKI WAS MUR-DERED

IN FRONT OF THE INCINER-ATOR—

MOURYOU NO HAKO CH43

SCANNER, TRANSLATOR: KURONEKO
CLEANER: YAZOO
PROOFER: OSPER, ELAGABALUS
TYPESETTER: ELAGABALUS

DARKtower
scanlations

WHY DON'T YOU GO TO THE SITE INSTEAD OF MAKING INQUIRIES?

THE DETEC-TIVE THERE,

...WH-

WHAT ABOUT... KANAKO?

IS KANAKO SAFE?

...

IT'S... OVER..

THE PATIENT— HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED.

N...

NOOO OOOOO OOO

I TAKE BACK EVERYTHING I SAID! SO PLEASE...

KIBA-SAN, PLEASE!!

FIND KANAKO!!

THE LID—

YOUKO—

THE LID OF THE BOX—

PLEASE FIND...

PLEASE FIND...

HER...

EMBRACE YOUKO AND—

YOUKO...
-SAN
FOR
NOW,
SIT...

KIBA...
-SAN...

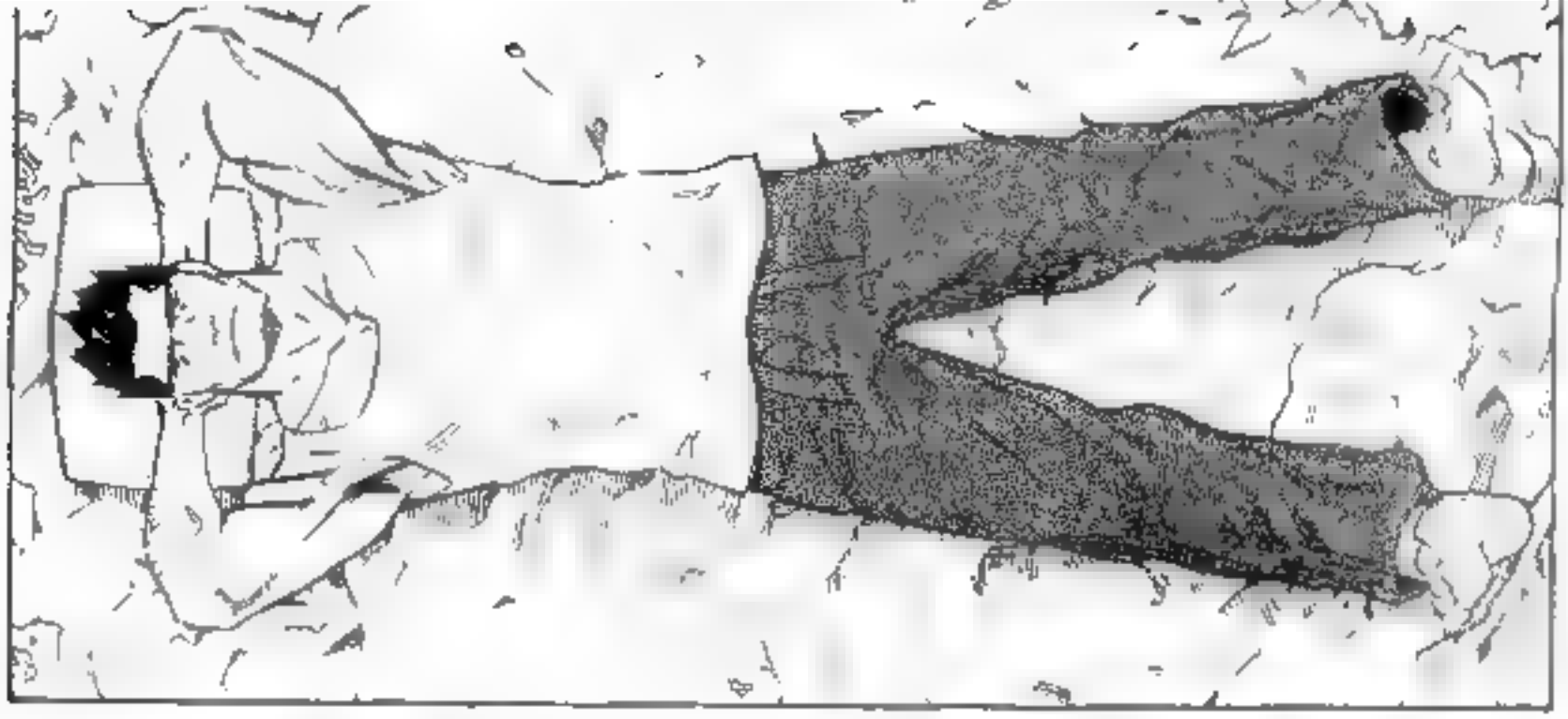
PLEASE,

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...

FIND KANA-KO...

OR ELSE I CAN'T ACT...

JUST GIVE ME INFORMA-TION

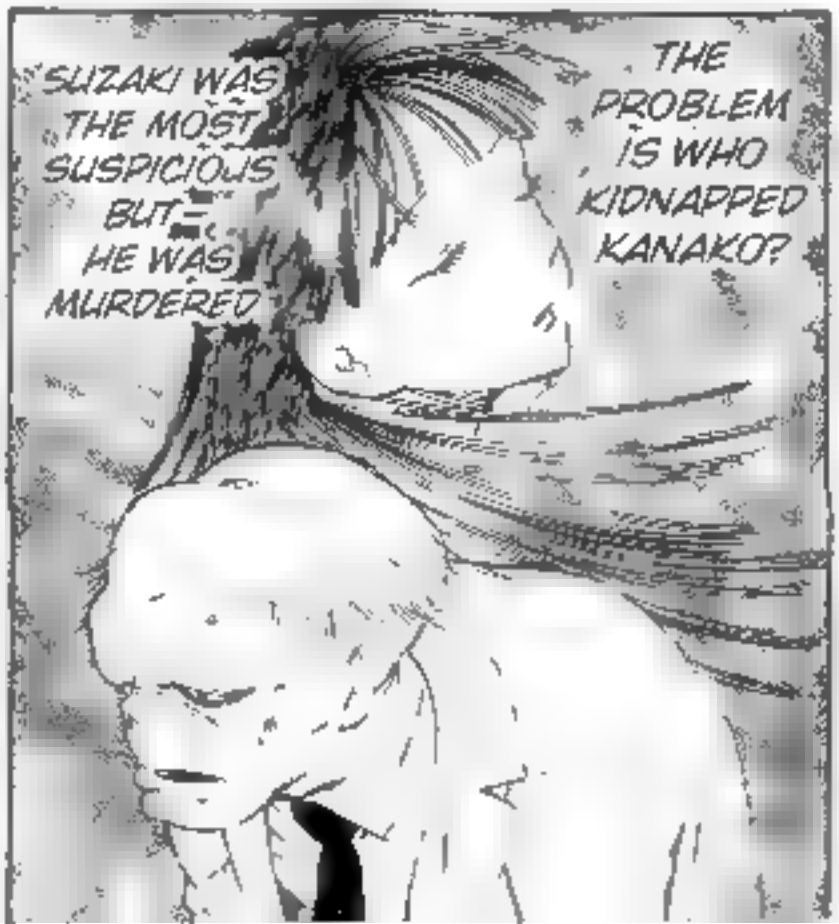


WAS THE SAME AS "THAT THING" FROM YORIKO'S TIME.

I SEE

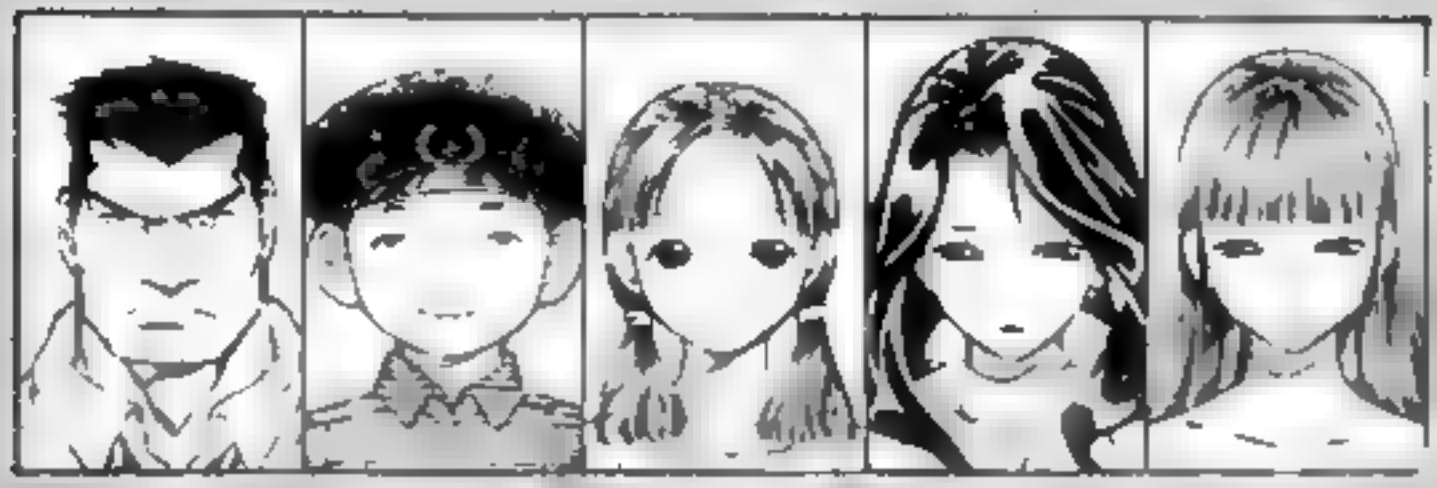
"THAT THING" FROM THAT TIME.

I NEED TO RETHINK THIS.


SUZAKI WAS THE MOST SUSPICIOUS BUT... HE WAS MURDERED
THE PROBLEM IS WHO KIDNAPPED KANAKO?

BUT WHO CARES ABOUT THAT.
...

ON THE DAY OF THE INCIDENT,
AUGUST 31ST, THESE PEOPLE WERE AT MIMASAKA'S LAB:



KIBA SHUTAROU (ME)

FUKUMOTO (POLICEMAN FROM MUSASHI KOGANEI)

KUSUMOTO YORIKO (KANAKO'S FRIEND)

YUZUKI YOUKO (KANAKO'S SISTER)

YUZUKI KANAKO (KIDNAPPED BY SOMEONE)

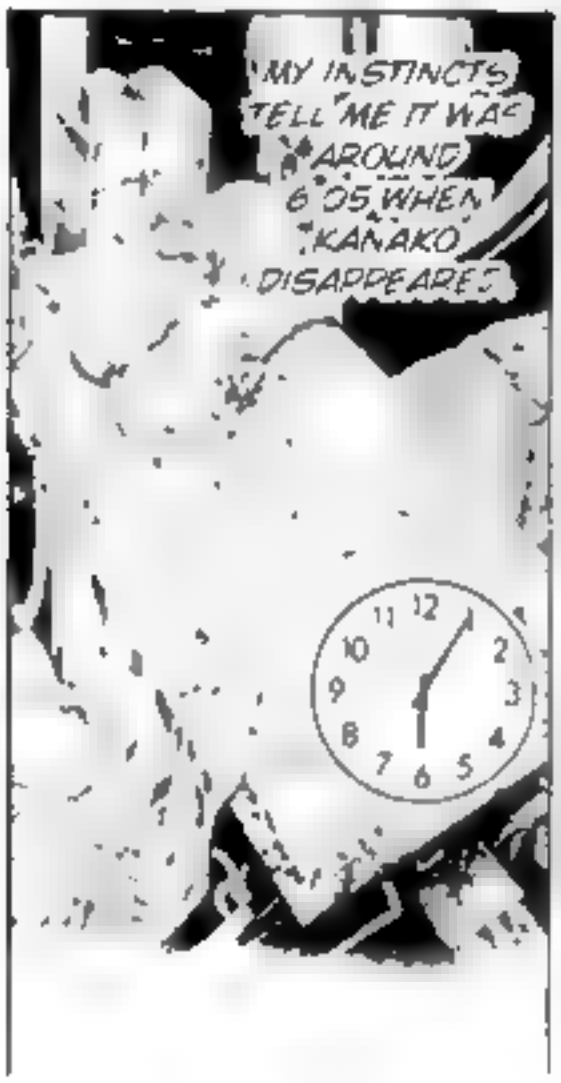
AMEMIYA (YOUKO'S MANAGER? DISAPPEARED AFTER THE INCIDENT)

ISHII (POLICE INSPECTOR FROM KANAGAWA)

KOUDA (LAB ENGINEER)

SUZAKI (RESEARCHER, MURDERED AFTER THE INCIDENT)

MIMASAKA KOUSHIROU (HEAD OF THE LAB)



...THIS IS UNNATURAL

I HAVE TO GO UP.

UP-STAIRS.

THEN THAT WOULD MEAN SUZAKI LEFT THE ROOM BETWEEN KANAKO'S DISAPPEARANCE AND 6:17.

6:18. MIMASAKA GOES TO THE SECOND FLOOR FROM THE THIRD FLOOR!

WE WENT INTO THE WAITING ROOM AT 6:32.

AMEMIYA'S WHEREABOUTS WERE ALSO UNKNOWN .. WOULD THAT MEAN HE WENT OUTSIDE AT AROUND THE SAME TIME AS OR BEFORE SUZAKI DID ..?

AT 7:30, MIMASAKA WORRIED ABOUT SUZAKI'S LATE RETURN FOUND HIS BODY AT THE INCINERATOR.

ALL 36 POLICEMEN WERE INSIDE THE BUILDING

DURING THE ONE HOUR UNTIL SUZAKI'S BODY WAS FOUND

THIS WAS CONFIRMED BY SOME OF THE OTHER POLICEMEN

MIMASAKA WAS IN HIS ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR UNTIL THEN

THE PROBLEM IS THE MOVEMENT OF THE POLICE DURING THAT TIME

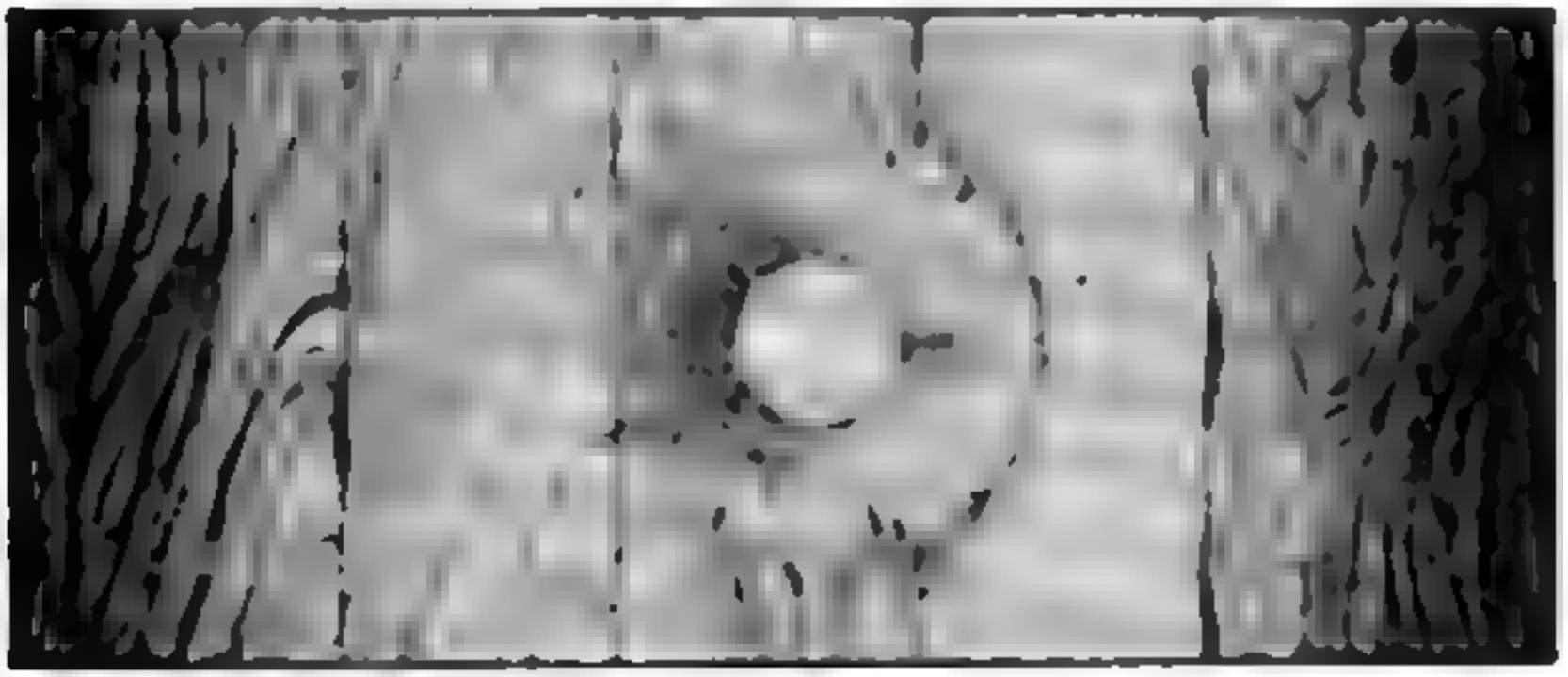
8:00, THE POLICE FINALLY WENT BACK TO THEIR POSITIONS.

9:03, CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS ARRIVED

MIMASAKA CAME IN TO THE WAITING ROOM AT 7:50 TO LET US KNOW ABOUT SUZAKI'S DEATH.

AND THE DAY AFTER THE NEXT AMEMIYA BECAME WANTED AS THE SUSPECT OF THE KIDNAPPING MURDER

WHO KNEW I'D GET LOCKED UP. .



BEEE

I THOUGHT I'D VISIT.

HEY!

ISN'T IT SUPPOSED TO BE A BELL?

WHO KNOWS.

WHAT WAS WITH THE BUZZER?

OH, THE LANDLORD HAS BAD HEARING, SO I'M SUPPOSED TO GET THE DOOR.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE ACTUALLY BEING OBEDIENT.

AOKI!

I NEED TO PICK YOUR BRAIN, AND IT WON'T BE FOR FREE.

I DON'T HAVE ANY.

YES, ON THE DISMEMBERMENT CASE.

ADVICE?

SO PLEASE... HELP ME OUT!

I WILL TELL YOU HOW THE YUZUKI KANAKO KIDNAPPING CASE IS GOING.

...

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO CAN'T STOP IN THE MIDDLE!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SPIRITED DEVIL KIBASHU!?

...

YEAH, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S THE TRUTH.

SO WHAT?

IS WHAT KUSUMOTO YORIKO SAID.

"KANAKO WAS PUSHED BY A MAN WITH GLOVES, DRESSED IN BLACK"—

WHAT?

YUZUKI YOUKO MADE A NEW STATEMENT.

"I SAW A MAN DRESSED IN BLACK ON THE DAY OF THE ACCIDENT",

IS WHAT SHE SAID.

DURING HER WALK, SHE SAW "A WHITE GLOVED MAN DRESSED IN BLACK."

IS WHAT SHE SAID.

WHA...

...

SHE SAID SHE WAS TIRED OF BEING SUR-ROUNDED BY POLICE-MEN.

AUGUST 31ST AT AROUND 2PM— YOUKO WAS WALKING IN THE FOREST BEHIND THE LABORA-TORY.

TESTIFY— AFTER HALF A MONTH?

...WHY TESTIFY AFTER HALF A MONTH—

THE MAN ESCAPED DEEPER INTO THE WOODS.

TO GET INTO THE WORKS SHE WOULD NEED TO PASS BY THE IN- "ERAT H WHERE

AND IF IT WERE THE TRUTH SHE WOULD'VE HAD SOME KIND OF REACTION—

THAT'S A LIE.

FOR SOME REASON, THE SECURITY IN THE BACK WAS WEAK.

THERE'S NO EVIDENCE TO CONTRADICT IT.

WAS THAT MY FAULT?

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT TOO.

THE KANAGAWA HEADQUARTERS THINK IT'S A LIE TO PROTECT AMEMIYA.

BUT,

IF THE STATEMENT IS A LIE, AMEMIYA AND YOUKO WOULD BE ACCOMPLICES—

SO IF THE STATEMENT IS TRUE, THE MAN IN BLACK IS THE CULPRIT.

A COPY OF THE RANSOM NOTE.

AND THIS— HERE,

YOU FOUND THIS LETTER, RIGHT?

WELL, NOT SO MUCH FOUND BUT...

THAT USELESS INSPECTOR FROM KANAGAWA WON'T BE ABLE TO SOLVE THIS CASE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "HERE"...? I'M SUSPENDED.

YOUKO WAS ACTING A LITTLE WEIRD THE OTHER DAY

WAS IT THE VISITING GIFT?

AUGUST 15TH— IT WAS DURING MY THIRD VISIT.

MASUOKA WAS THERE AND HE WAS TALKING WITH MMASAKA—

THE KOGANEI POLICE SAID

THAT THE CASE

IS MOST LIKELY— SUICIDE.

AND YOUKO'S EXPRESSION.

IS SHE WORN OUT—?

OR ANXIOUS—?

KANAKO WAS SLEEPING LIKE A ROCK WHEN WE FINALLY GOT TO SEE HER—

I WONDER IF YOUKO-SAN'S IN THE WAITING ROOM AS USUAL.

YOUKO-SA..

I'D BE SHOCKED TOO IF MY SISTER COMMITTED SUICIDE. .

!

OH...

THIS IS...

A RANSOM LETTER—!?

「加菜子を預かる。
命が惜しくは金を用意すべし」
「十子は Il a le diable au corps」
額面は壱千萬圓也
期日は九月也
知らせねば
悪魔」

AME-
MIYA...

!

ISN'T THAT WEIRD? HE OPENED SOMEONE ELSE'S ENVELOPE.

HE KEPT SAYING THAT IT MUST BE A PRANK.

AMEMIYA SAID IT WAS STUCK IN THE FRONT DOOR.

IT SEEMS THE WORDS WERE ALL CUT OUT FROM THE SAME DOCUMENT.

Il a le diable au corps

WHAT'S THIS SAY?

IT'S FRENCH. IT SAYS "POSSESSED BY A DEVIL".

THAT IS STRANGE.

WHO PEELED IT OFF AND FOR WHAT REASON?

THE DEADLINE IS MISSING.

ISN'T THAT STRANGE?

IT WAS LIKE THIS FROM THE BEGINNING.

LOOK LIKE THEY'VE BEEN PEELED OFF.

AND THE MISSING PARTS

其日は九月」に知らせ」

AND THAT ABSURD SECURITY WAS THE PRESSURE FROM ABOVE.

WELL IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED,

SO I REPORTED IT AND MADE IT A BIG DEAL...?

WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE THAT...

EVERYTHING ABOUT IT IS UNPROFESSIONAL.

IT'S ONLY NORMAL TO THINK OF IT AS A PRANK.

AND SO... IF IT WAS A PRANK, THE CULPRITS WOULD BE YOUKO AND AMEMIYA...

BUT THAT WOULD BE STRANGE.

THE ONES TO GET THE MONEY WOULD BE THEMSELVES AND

IT WOULD ONLY PUT KANAKO IN DANGER.

WELL... I GUESS.

ME GOING THERE AND SEEING THAT NOTE

AND MAKING IT A BIG DEAL.

WAS ALL A COINCI-DENCE AFTER ALL.

AND—

PLEASE FIND KANAKO!

THAT WASN'T A LIE.

KANAKO'S LIFE!

WELL, EITHER WAY.

KANAGAWA DOESN'T HAVE ANY INTENTION OF SOLVING THIS CASE.

AFTER ALL THAT ATTENTION?

THAT'S WHY THEY PUT ON SUCH A SHOW WITH ALL THAT SECURITY.

I DON'T KNOW WHO EXACTLY THOUGH

AS SOON AS THEY SAW THE LETTER, THEY THOUGHT IT WAS A PRANK.

BUT, AFTER SOME INVESTI-GATION, THEY FOUND THAT A RELATIVE OF KANAKO'S WAS WEALTHY.

THIS IS ALL JUST THE KANAGAWA HEADQUAR-TERS FUSSING BY ITSELF.

BY ITSELF?

BUT THE CRIME ACTUALLY HAPPENED...

IT WASN'T GOOD THAT ISHII WAS IN CHARGE OF THE SCENE.

HE WAS... DEMOTED.

To SAVE THE TYCOON'S FACE

IT LOOKS LIKE THE MAN IN CHARGE INTERRO-GATED HER,

AND SAID THAT SHE MUST BE TRYING TO GET MONEY OUT OF THAT RELATIVE.

HE BROUGHT IT ON HIMSELF

AND YOUKO-SAN..

SHE WAS HELD IN A DIFFERENT PLACE THAN YOU.

WHAT?

BUT THAT RELATIVE NEVER GOT A THREATENING LETTER, SO SHE WAS RELEASED IN A WEEK.

TOSS

IT'S RIDICULOUS.

THERE ARE EVEN PEOPLE WHO THINK YOU'RE AN ACCOMPLICE.

WHAT WAS I DOING THESE 3 WEEKS?

I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PROTECT YOUKO-SAN AT ALL!!

THERE'S NO WAY NO ONE SAW A MAN CARRYING A DYING GIRL, ESPECIALLY WHEN HE WASN'T USING A CAR.

MAYBE AMEMIYA WAS MURDERED, JUST LIKE SUZAKI...

THERE'S NO LEAD ON AMEMIYA... IF THIS CONTINUES, THE CASE WILL GO COLD.

THE CULPRIT... PROBABLY ISN'T AMEMIYA.

THE PEOPLE FROM KANAGAWA ARE TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO GET RID OF THIS CASE, LET ALONE SOLVE IT!

SO... THIS IS YOUR CHANCE!

YOU HAVE THOSE STRANGE FRIENDS OF YOURS!

WHAT CAN I DO?

I'M— ON SUSPENSION AND IT'S NOT MY JURIS-DICTION.

...

THOSE GUYS...

THE DETECTIVE ENOKIZU

THE PRIEST, KYOGOKUDOU—

THE NOVELIST, SEKIGUCHI—

LET'S HEAR IT

BUT IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE CASE

A LITTLE RUMOR ABOUT THAT LAB.

ANY OTHER INFORMATION?

BEASTS?

YES, LIKE MONKEYS AND BABOONS.

EVERY COUPLE MONTHS, SOME BEASTS GET DELIVERED BY TRUCK

THAT BUILDING— IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A FACILITY USED BY THE ARMY DURING THE WAR.

THIS IS WHAT THE LOCALS SAY.

IN THAT BOX MANSION, THERE'S A CHILD OF A HAIRY BEAST THAT EATS DEAD BODIES.

WOUNDED PATIENTS THAT ENTER THAT BOX NEVER COME BACK.

THAT'S ALL I HAVE ABOUT THE YUZUKI KANAKO KIDNAPPING CASE.

...RI-DICU-LOUS.

THEY GET KILLED AND BECOME FOOD—

AND? DIDN'T YOU SAY THERE WAS SOME CONDITION? TELL ME.

KANAKO, EATEN BY THE BEAST—

LET ME FIRST EXPLAIN HOW THE CASE STARTED.

IT'S ABOUT THE DISMEMBERMENT CASE.

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE IN CHARGE OF IT

...AND SO,

THAT'S ALL THAT'S KNOWN ABOUT THE CASE.

ALL BODY PARTS EXCEPT FOR THE FIRST ARM WERE FOUND IN A BOX—

LIKE THIS

PAULOWNIA BOXES AFTER THE 2ND VICTIM

THE FIRST BOX FOUND

" MADE OF METAL (FOUND IN THE LAKE)

AND THIS HASN'T BEEN MADE PUBLIC, BUT,

FOUR YOUNG GIRLS

THAT'S... A WHOLE LOT OF KILLING.

ALL THE PAULOWNIA BOXES WERE FOUND IN PERFECTLY FITTING SPACES,

LIKE BETWEEN HOUSES OR BETWEEN FENCES.

THEY'RE NOT TRYING TO HIDE IT.

RIGHT? THE CULPRIT ISN'T NORMAL.

...DOESN'T SOUND VERY SMART.

KASHA?

THAT THIS IS THE *KASHA'S* DOING.

THANKS TO THAT, RUMORS ARE FLYING AND STRANGE THINGS ARE BEING SAID

STRANGE THINGS?

YOUR BODY GETS CUT UP AND SCAT-TERED ALL AROUND.

IT'S A MONSTER PULLING A BURNING CARRIAGE.

IF YOU DON'T BEHAVE WELL IN YOUR PRESENT LIFE, THE KASHA COMES TO TAKE YOU AWAY ON YOUR DEATH BED.

THEY'RE CUTTING UP THE BODIES EVEN MORE?

YES, I SAW THE PICTURES, BUT THEY WERE JUST BONES WITH SOME FLESH STUCK TO THEM.

BUT IF YOU KEEP SCATTERING THE ARMS AND LEGS, THERE'D BE A PILE OF HEADS AND TORSOS LEFT ON THE CARRIAGE.

WHILE SEARCH-ING THE LAKE.

OH, THE PELVIS AND BACKBONE OF THE FIRST VICTIM WERE FOUND,

SO WE HAD HER PRINTS.

WE'RE SURE WHO THE FOURTH VICTIM IS. THE DELINQUENT DAUGHTER OF A PHOTO STUDIO OWNER IN KAWASAK.

PRO-STITUTION, THEFT, BULLYING, MUGGING, ANYTHING GOES.

WHAT ABOUT THE VICTIM'S IDEN-TITY?

WE'VE PRETTY MUCH CONFIRM-ED IT,

BUT WE'RE NOT *COMPLETELY* SURE SO IT HASN'T BEEN RELEASED.

AND THE FIRST?

THERE ARE A FEW POSSI-BILITIES, BUT WE'RE NOT SURE...

THE SECOND VICTIM IS THE DAUGH-TER OF A TEACHER FROM SAITAMA.

THE THIRD VICTIM IS THE DAUGHTER OF A COMPANY WORKER FROM SENJU.

IT'D BE RIDICULOUS TO BE KILLED FOR THE RELIGION THE R MOTHERS PRACTICE.

WELL... THAT'S PROBABLY IRRELE-VANT.

THE ONLY THING IS THAT ALL THE MOTHERS ARE THE SAME RELIGION.

AND THERE'S NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE VICTIMS WHATSO-EVER...

BUT WHAT'S BOTHERING ME IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

WHAT?

AND THE GIRL FROM SENJU,
HER NAME IS OZAWA TOSHIE.

YOSHIMI WAS WALKING WITH A MAN DRESSED IN BLACK WITH WHITE GLOVES.

THE DAUGHTER OF THE PHOTO STUDIO OWNER— HER NAME IS KAKIZAKI YOSHIMI.
A FEW PEOPLE SAW HER BEFORE SHE WENT MISSING.

THE DISTRICT HAD BEEN SEARCHING FOR HER.

SHE WAS A VERY RESPONSIBLE GIRL AND SHE WAS THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED.

HE WAS DRESSED IN BLACK AND HAD GLOVES ON—

DURING THAT INVESTI-GATION,

A GLOVED YOUNG MAN CAME UP.

DON'T TELL ME...

AOKI...

YOU...

IT'S WEIRD.

A MAN DRESSED IN BLACK WITH SOMETHING LIKE GLOVES-

YORIKO AND YOUKO WERE TELLING THE TRUTH—!?

THE TWO CASES ARE CONNECTED?

WHY ARE THERE SO MANY PEOPLE WEARING GLOVES IN THE SUMMER?

IS THIS A COINCI-DENCE?

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAYING.

AND CUT UP—

THEN YOU'RE SAYING KANAKO WAS MUR-DERED

THEY'RE ONLY POS-SIBILITIES.

THERE ARE CANDIDATES FOR THE VICTIMS—

THE DISMEMBER-ING STARTED A WHILE AGO AND—

NO, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S LOOK'NG AT BOTH.

WE HAVEN'T BEEN WORKING TOGETHER, LET ALONE SHARING INFORMA-TION.

KANAKO WAS DISMEM-BERED?

ARE THE TWO CASES BEING INVESTI-GATED AS BEING RELATED?

THERE MAY BE MORE DISMEMBERED VICTIMS.

THE SERIAL DISMEMBERMENT MURDER CASE IS STILL ONGOING.

KANAKO MAY BE...

IF...

THESE TWO CASES ARE RELATED,

THERE'S NO WAY SHE'S RELATED TO THE OTHER CASES!!

KANAKO WON'T GET DISMEMBERED!!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!!

THAT TOO, BUT—
"IT'S INTUITION",

YOU ALWAYS USED TO SAY.

YOU— THINK THE TWO CASES ARE RELATED?
YES.
IS THE GLOVED MAN YOUR REASON?

RIGHT?

PREDICTIONS ARE EFFECTIVE. PROOF COMES AFTERWARD.

YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EXPERIENCE FOR THAT YET.

HMPH

—...

PUNCH

ARIES

LOOK, HEAR, SMELL AND FEEL WITH YOUR BODY!!

WALK BEFORE YOU THINK!!

I'M A DETECTIVE

THAT'S WHAT MY BOX IS FOR.

MOURYOU NO HAKO CH4C

SCANNER, TRANSLATOR: KURONEKO
CLEANER: YAZOO
PROOFER, TYPESETTER: ELAGABALUS

DARKtower
scanlations

SLAP

BAM

IF THIS STURDINESS WILL HELP YOUKO

BUT THIS IS GOOD.

THIS IS ONE ROUGH BODY I'VE GOT

I DON'T CARE ABOUT HER FEELINGS.

REMEMBER THE SCENE

BUT WHICH ONE?

NOW...

MUSASHI KOGANEI STATION?

MIMASAKA MODERN MEDICAL SCIENCE LABORATORY?

OR SAGAMI LAKE?

I'M SURE SATOMURA HAS SEEN ALL OF THEM.

THE CORONER? I THINK THEY'RE ALL DIFFERENT BECAUSE OF THE DISMEMBERING BUT—

SATO-MURA—

THAT PERSON. WELL, HER LIMBS.

WERE FOUND BEFORE KANAKO-SAN WAS KIDNAPPED.

SO IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

KANAKO-SAN HAS TYPE B BLOOD.

THIS IS HER CASE RECORD FROM THE MITAKA HOSPITAL.

THE ONLY VICTIM WITH TYPE B BLOOD IS THE FIRST, BUT—

里村外科

SIGN: SATOMURA CLINIC

On break until 2:00

THE POSSIBILITY THAT YUZUKI KANAKO IS A VICTIM IN THE DISMEMBERMENT CASE?

IMPOSSIBLE.

I ALREADY KNOW THAT AN AUTOPSY FREAK LIKE YOU IS MAD.

I'M A LITTLE MAD.

NOW LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY!

I SEE...

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU PROBABLY HAVE AN ABSURD OPINION

I'M JAPAN'S MOST TALENTED SUPERVISING DOCTOR!

THE POLICE AREN'T LISTENING TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.

I'M *FRUSTRATED!*

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAYING!

WHILE THEY WERE STILL ALIVE!

AT LEAST ONE OF THEIR ARMS WERE SEVERED

THAT'S NOT TRUE! LISTEN. FOR A COUPLE OF THE VICTIMS,

THERE'S NOTHING MORE TALKATIVE THAN DEAD BODIES.

THEY SAY THE DEAD DON'T TALK, BUT KIBA-KUN,

NO...

BUT THE LEG WAS CLEARLY CUT AFTER THE PERSON DIED.

IT'S EASY TO SEE WHAT SITUATION THE BODY WAS IN IF YOU LOOK AT THE VITAL REACTION AND OXYGEN LEVELS.

THEN THAT MEANS...

MEANING THE CULPRIT HAD A WEAPON READY EVEN BEFORE THEY KILLED THE VICTIM.

I THINK THAT THE CULPRIT IS CUTTING THE ARM OFF BEFORE THEY'VE EVEN COMPLETELY KILLED THE VICTIM.

THE CULPRIT KILLED THEM *TO* CUT THEIR LIMBS OFF.

THE CULPRIT DIDN'T KILL THEM AND THEN CUT THEIR LIMBS OFF.

MAYBE THEY NEEDED INGREDI-ENTS...

TO EAT IT.

WHY? FOR WHAT REASON!?

I'M NOT ABNORMAL, SO I DON'T KNOW.

BUT FOR IN-STANCE...

BUT IF I WERE TO EAT IT, I WOULDN'T THROW AWAY THE THIGHS.

BUT I GUESS CARNI-VORES PREFER THE INTES-TINES.

EX-PERI-MENTS ?

THAT SOMEONE WAS CONDUCT-ING EXPERI-MENTS.

ENOUGH ABOUT THAT. BUT I THINK...

AND THEY NEEDED TO CUT THE LIMBS OFF IN A HURRY FOR THAT EXPERIMENT.

YUP.

LIKE THEY WERE EXPERIMENT-ING ON THE HEAD OR THE ABDOMEN

BEASTS GET DELIV-ERED.

A CHILD OF A HAIRY BEAST.

WOUNDED PATIENTS THAT ENTER THAT BOX NEVER COME BACK.

EATS DEAD BODIES—

WHAT'S WRONG, KIBA-KUN?

BUT WHOEVER SEVERED THE LIMBS IS BAD AT IT

IF IT WERE A DOCTOR THEY'D BE BETTER AT REMOVING THEM.

IT LOOKS LIKE THE CULPRIT'S BEEN USING A HATCHET OR AN AXE.

THEY TAKE SO MUCH TIME CUTTING OFF THE ARM THAT WHEN THEY'VE REACHED THE LEG, THE VICTIM IS ALREADY DEAD.

BET-TER?

BUT IT SEEMS THE CULPRIT'S A FAST LEARNER; THEY'RE GETTING BETTER AT IT.

MIMASAKA KOUSHIRO

THE SECOND VICTIM WAS JUST MESSY.

I'VE ONLY SEEN A PHOTO OF THE FIRST VICTIM, BUT...

THE FOURTH VICTIM'S WAS ALMOST CUT OFF IN ONE SWING

DISMEMBERMENT CASES USUALLY HAPPEN WHEN THE CULPRIT HAS A HARD TIME DISPOSING OF THE BODY OR AS A RESULT OF REVENGE AND HATE.

I DON'T THINK SO.

OH, MAYBE THE MOTIVE WAS TO TRY CUTTING THEIR LIMBS OFF?

THE FACT THAT THEY'RE NOT DOING THAT SHOWS THAT THEY WANT TO BE FOUND SOMEWHERE IN THEIR HEART.

THEN MIX IT WITH SOME FEED AND USE IT ON THE FIELDS. NO ONE WOULD EVER FIND OUT.

I DON'T GET THE CULPRIT-HAS-A-HARD-TIME-DISPOSING-OF-THE-BODY THING.

IF THEY DON'T WANT IT TO BE FOUND, JUST DICE UP THE FLESH AND CRUSH THE BONES.

NOT JUST THIS CASE, BUT DISMEMBERMENT CASES ARE ALWAYS LACKADAISICAL.

WAS IT THE SAME THIS TIME?

NO, NOT THIS ONE. THEY WEREN'T TRYING TO HIDE IT AT ALL.

AND THEY PROBABLY CUT THE ARM OFF WHEN THE VICTIM WAS ALIVE.

SO IT'S EVEN WEIRDER!

MY OPINION IS BETTER!

I SEE... I SHOULD'VE THOUGHT OF THAT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN *ALL DAY*?

BUT I'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT DISMEM-BERMENT ALL DAY TODAY.

SEKI-GUCHI-KUN CAME IN JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO.

ABOUT THE DISMEM-BERMENT CASE.

HE COINCIDEN-TALLY GOT HIS HANDS ON THE LIST OF MEMBERS.

AND HE THINKS THAT MAYBE IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE DISMEM-BERMENT CASE.

ABOUT SOME RELIGION CALLED KEGAREFUUJI ONBAKO-SAMA. I THINK HE SAID ABOUT 10 OR SO OF THE FOLLOWER'S DAUGHTERS...

ARE MISSING.

SEKI-GUCHI DID!? WHY?

YOU KNOW HOW HE ALWAYS SEEMS SO SERIOUS?

I JUST COULDN'T TURN HIM AWAY.

AND SO HE CAME TO ME, THOUGH I'M NOT TOO SURE WHY.

IT LACKED PROOF SO HE COULDN'T GO TO THE POLICE.

I'LL GIVE THE INFORMATION TO OOSHIMA-SAN.

THIS IS A COPY OF THE MEMBERS LIST.

GIVE IT TO AOKI-CHAN OR SOMETHING.

THE RELIGION AOKI WAS TALKING ABOUT..?

...HMPH

SO YOU SHOULD LISTEN TO HIM.

HE PUT IN SO MUCH EFFORT COPYING THAT.

FLIP

FLIP

HM?

FLIP

HE HAS HORRIBLE HAND-WRITING...

FLIP

NO, AFTER THAT—

FLIP

Kusumoto Kimie

Tokyo Koganei

SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.

WHOA.

OH, BUT BEFORE THAT...

? ?

HE WAS A FAMOUS DOCTOR BEFORE THE WAR. HE'S AN IMMUNOLOGIST FROM TEIKYO UNIVERSITY—

BUT HIS RESEARCH WAS TOO ECCENTRIC SO HE WAS KICKED OUT OF THE ACADEMIC WORLD OR SOMETHING—

SATOMURA, DO YOU KNOW ABOUT A DOCTOR CALLED MIMASAKA KOUSHIRO?

MIMASAKA? OH...

IM-MOR-TALI-TY?

I HEARD HE WAS DOING RESEARCH ON IMMOR-TALITY.

RE-SEARCH ON NOT DYING.

IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER IF HE'D BEEN RESEARCHING FOR A WAY TO FIX ATHLETE'S FOOT.

BUT GENIUSES THAT GO TOO FAR GET ELIMINATED.

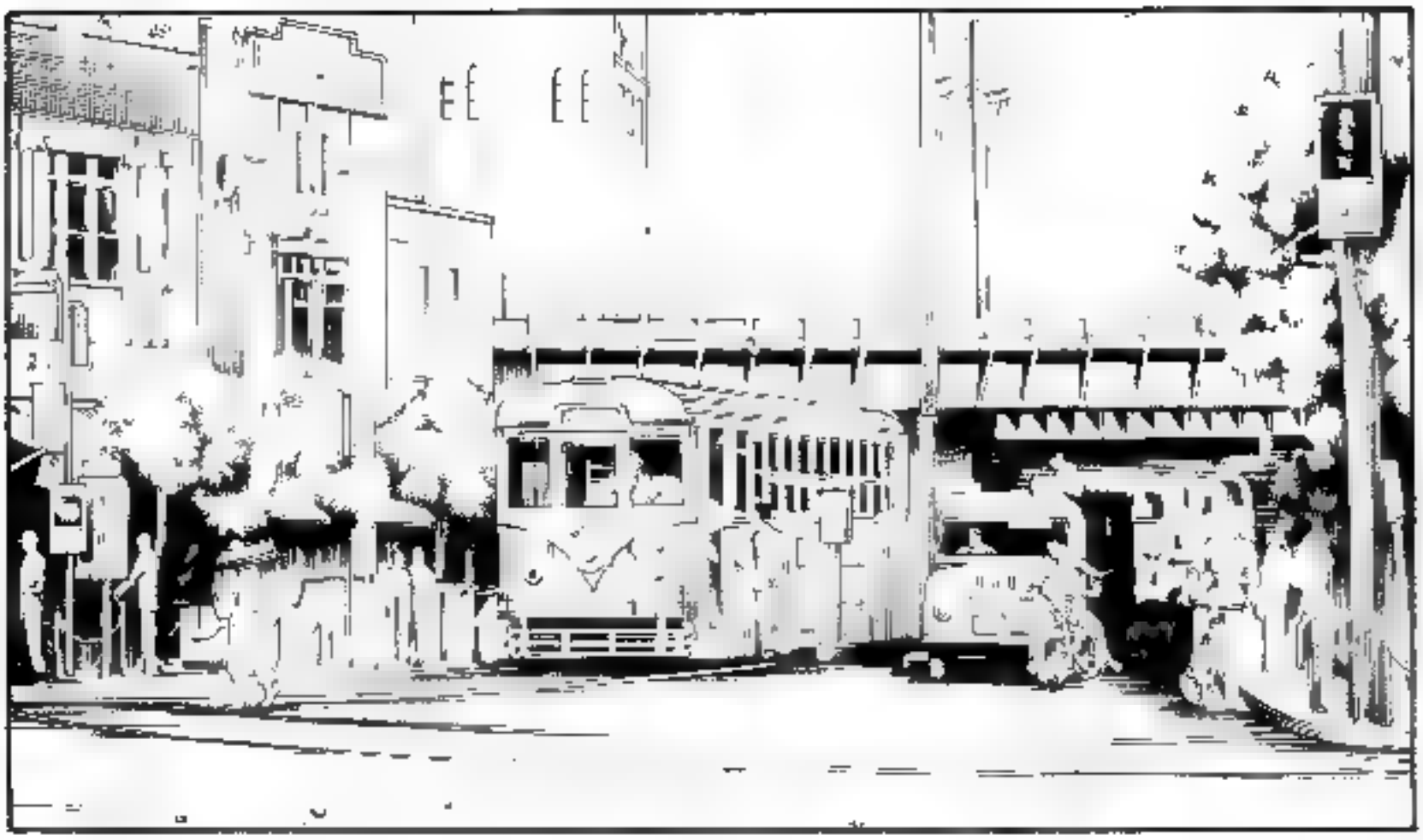
TOO CREEPY TO BE A COINCIDENCE

RE-SEARCH ON IMMOR-TALITY...

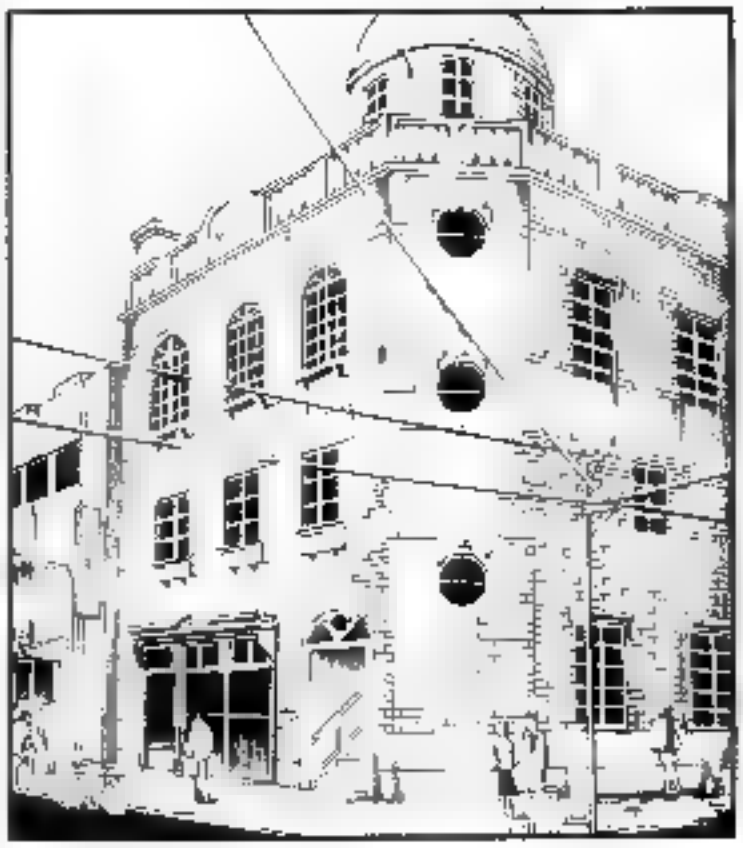
KANAKO WILL NEVER DIE.

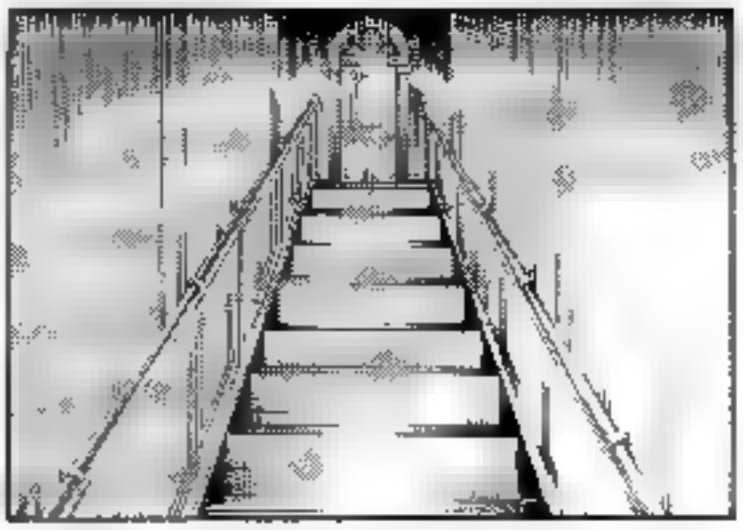
SURE WASN'T SANE RE-SEARCH.

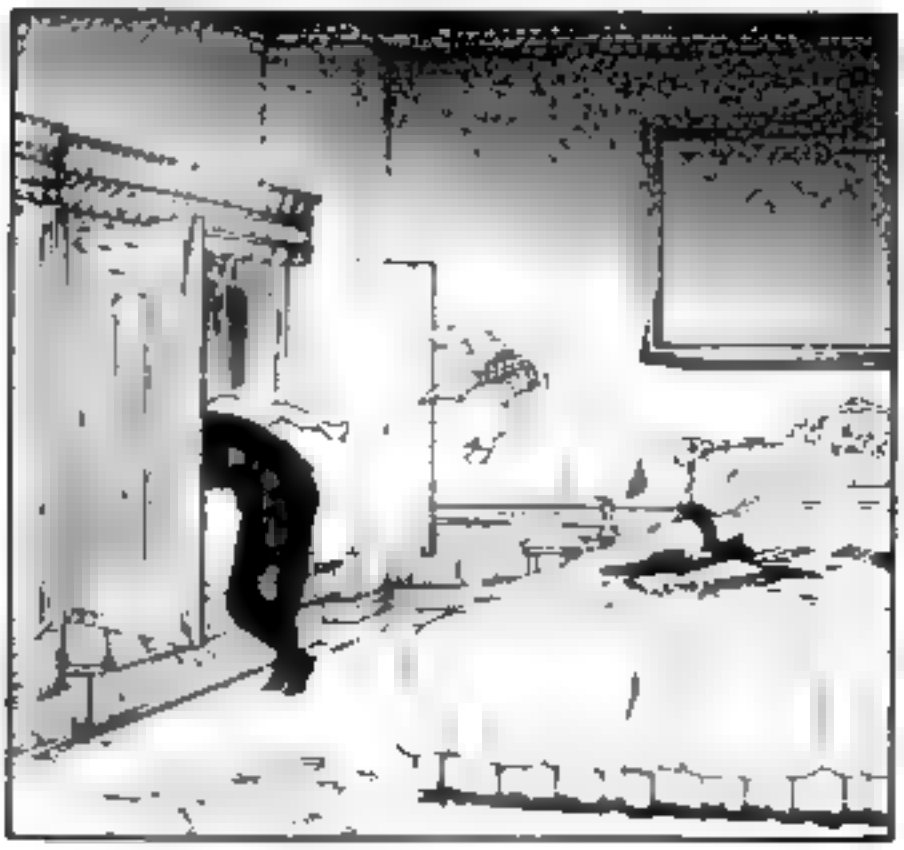
I'LL BE WITH YOU

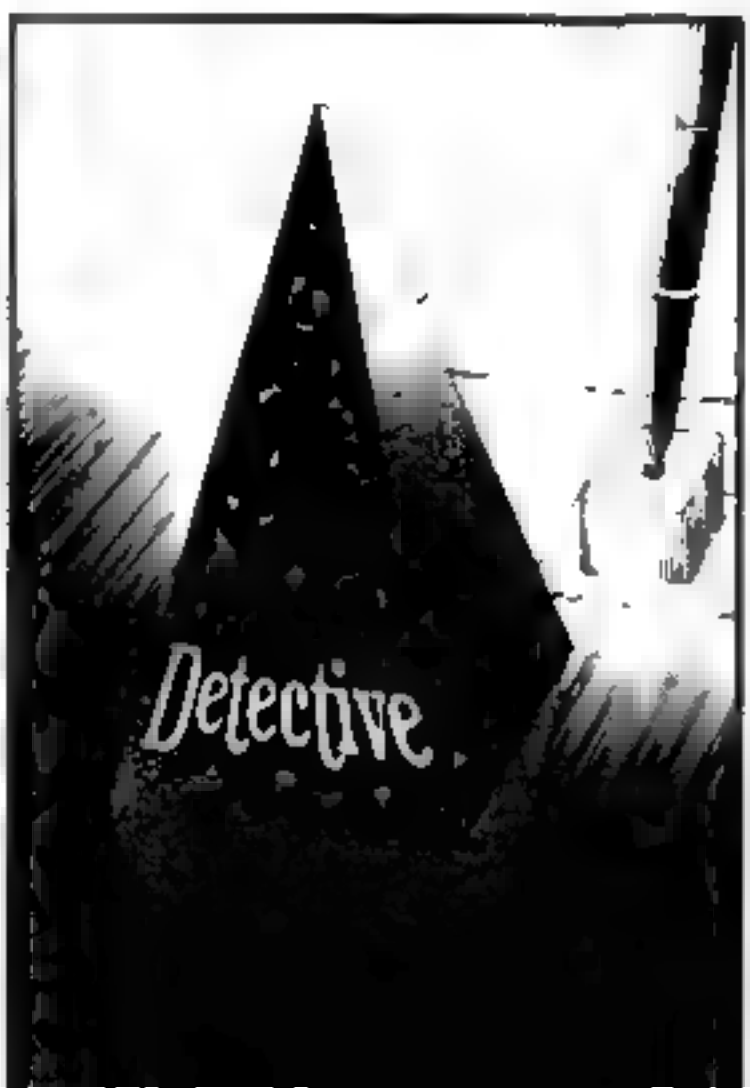


Rozenkreuz
Detective
Agency








Detective

BAR-
TENDER

...

WHEN'S THE CLIENT COMING? SOME SUPER FAMOUS PERSON?

IT'S THE SUPER FAMOUS PERSON'S MESSENGER, SO NOT THAT FAMOUS.

DING

!

CLACK

YOU LOOK LIKE A WAITER TODAY.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY "BAR-TENDER".

YOU MUST BE— THE ROZENKREUZ DETECTIVE AGENCY'S DETECTIVE, ENOKIZU REIJIRO.

YES.

SO LONG.

I AM PART OF A CERTAIN ASSOCIATION THAT IS MADE UP OF THE CORPORATE LAWYER GROUP AND COMPANIES OF THE SHIBATA ZAIBATSU AND OF SHIBATA YOKOO HIMSELF. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO THINK THAT WHAT I SAY AND DO IS UNDER THE DECISION OF SHIBATA YOKOO HIMSELF AND ALL OF HIS ASSOCIATED GROUPS.

LAWYER? YOU'RE NOT FROM SHIBATA SILK MANU-FACTURING?

I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF THE REASON FOR MY VISIT TODAY BEFORE-HAND.

HERE'S MY BUSINESS CARD.

Lawyer
Masuoka Noriyuki

SO IN THE END HE'S JUST SHIBATA'S MESSEN-GER—

HE SEEMS LIKE A CLASSIC

MON-KEY?

I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE ACCEPTED THIS CASE...

IN JAPANESE, THE WORD FOR "CERTAIN" AND "MONKEY" ARE HOMONYMS.

WHAT IS IT, FATHER?

HOW RARE OF YOU TO CALL.

YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL, YOU'RE ALREADY PAST 60.

AND SO, MY REASON FOR CALL-ING...

I FELL IN A DITCH ON MY WAY BACK.

BWA HA-HA HA!

WHAT? YOU SPRAINED YOUR ANKLE? ARE YOU OK?

I WENT OUT ON MY BICYCLE 2 DAYS AGO TO GO CATCH SOME GRASS-HOPPERS BUT,

YOU SHOULD CARE!!

WELL, I DON'T ACTUALLY CARE ABOUT HIM, BUT...

A REQUEST? AS A DETEC-TIVE?

THAT'S RIGHT.

I HAVE A FRIEND NAMED SHIBATA.

AND HE WANTS YOUR HELP.

AND SO ONE OF SHIBATA'S SUBORDI-NATES HEARD ABOUT YOUR REPUTATION.

Be quiet!

AH RIGHT, RIGHT.

PRESIDENT!! OUR COMPANY OWES A WHOLE LOT TO SHIBATA SILK MANUFAC-TURING.

HE ISN'T IN A HIGH POSI-TION, IS HE?

NOT AT ALL, HE'S A PRESIDENT OR SOME-THING OF A THREAD COMPANY.

HE'S SUPPOSEDLY THE ONE PULLING THE STRINGS IN THE FINANCIAL WORLD.

FOUNDER OF SHIBATA SILK MANUFACTURING AND THE SHIBATA ZAIBATSU—

AH... HE'S TALKING ABOUT SHIBATA YOKOO.

...

HEY! WAIT!

SO HE'S SENDING A MESSENGER TOMORROW IN THE AFTERNOON.

BYE!

THE CONTENTS OF THIS CASE SHOULD NOT BE LEAKED TO ANYBODY.

I'LL SAY THIS AGAIN, BUT...

I HOPE IT ISN'T A BIG DEAL...

THIS IS GOING TO TAKE A WHILE

RIGHT.

I WANT YOU TO LOOK FOR SOMEONE.

YES, KINUKO!

MINAMI KINUKO?

YES! THE ACTRESS IN THAT, KITA OR MINAMI OR..

SAN-SHIRO?

HUH?

AH... I SAW THAT MOVIE.

WHAT WAS IT... SANGORO.... NO, SANTARO...?

YOU'RE A FAN RIGHT? UHH, MATSU...

Masuoka Noriyuki

IT'S MASU-OKA.

SHE'S A HORRIBLE ACTRESS BUT HER BLANK EXPRESSION IS GREAT, LIKE SHE CAN SEE THROUGH EVERYTHING.

BUT WE'RE NOT LOOKING FOR MINAMI KINUKO.

IT'S HER WE'RE LOOKING FOR.

S... SO YOU'VE ALREADY REACHED HER AFTER YOU HEARD ABOUT THE CASE YESTERDAY?

SOME AMAZING RESEARCH SKILLS.

I ONLY SAID WHAT I SAW.

ISN'T KINUKO 25 THIS YEAR? IT DOESN'T ADD UP.

DAUGH-TER?

NO, THAT'S MINAMI KINUKO'S 14 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER.

WHAT, IT'S KINUKO AGAIN.

WHAT!?

KINUKO'S REAL NAME IS YUZUKI YOUKO AND SHE'S ACTUALLY 31.

FIRST LET ME EXPLAIN THE RELA-TIONSHIP BETWEEN THEM AND MR. YOKOO.

MEANING SHE WAS 17 WHEN SHE HAD HER.

THIS IS YUZUKI KANAKO.

MR. YOKOO HAD ONE BLOOD-RELATED GRANDSON BY THE NAME OF HIROYA-SAN.

15 YEARS AGO— IN THE 12TH YEAR OF SHOWA.

YOUKO WAS VERY POOR AND LIVED WITH HER SICK MOTHER— AT THE TIME, THE ROMANCE BETWEEN THE TWO WAS LOOKED DOWN UPON—

HIROYA-SAN, WHO WAS INTO KABUKI AT THE TIME, FELL IN LOVE WITH MINAMI KINUKO— OR BACK THEN, YUZUKI YOUKO— WHO WAS THE TICKET COLLECTOR AT THE THEATRE.

HOWEVER, YOUKO BECAME PREGNANT

IN JUST ONE NIGHT—

THEY WERE CAUGHT BY PURSUERS SENT BY MR. YOKOO AND SO THEIR ESCAPE LASTED ONLY ONE DAY—

AND, ON AUGUST 15TH IN THE 12TH YEAR OF SHOWA,

THE TWO ELOPED.

AFTER THE TWO WERE SEPARATED, YOUKO HAD KANAKO ALONE.

SHE DIDN'T ACCEPT ANY CONSOLATION MONEY FROM THE SHIBATA FAMILY.

ALTHOUGH MR. YOKOO WAS SUSPICIOUS AT FIRST, HE SOON BECAME VERY AMAZED BY HER SAGACIOUS NATURE.

HE WOULD GIVE HER MONEY TO RAISE KANAKO AND ALSO TO TAKE CARE OF YOUKO'S MOTHER'S MEDICAL BILLS.

YOUKO ACCEPTED THIS FOR HER MOTHER.

HE SUGGESTED THAT IF SHE WOULD FORGET ABOUT AND THROW AWAY EVERYTHING WITH HIROYA AND AGREE TO BE UNDER CONSTANT WATCH.

AFTER HER MOTHER DIED, SHE DENIED THE MONEY FOR MEDICAL BILLS.

YOUKO ALSO DID NOT ACCEPT ANY MONEY THAT WAS NOT PART OF THE CONTRACT.

HE WAS A NAIVELY HONEST MAN AND WATCHED HER FOR 14 YEARS KNOWING THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROMOTION.

A MAN NAMED AMEMIYA WAS CHOSEN TO WATCH HER.

HIROYA-SAN DIED IN THE PACIFIC WAR.

BUT ONLY YOUKO KNOWS THE TRUTH.

I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.

SOUNDS LIKE ONE SUPERB WOMAN.

THERE'S NO PROOF THAT KANAKO IS NOT HIROYA'S DAUGHTER AND THAT IT'S ALL AN ACT FOR MONEY.

WELL... A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE SUSPICIOUS.

MR. YOKOO HAD A STROKE.

AND JULY OF THIS YEAR—

WE'RE FINALLY GETTING TO THE POINT.

MR. YOKOO SAID THE IMPOSSI-BLE ON HIS DEATH BED,

AFTER HIROYA-SAN DIED, MR. YOKOO ADOPTED A CHILD AND ALL THE DETAILS FOR THE INHERI-TANCE WERE MADE UP, BUT—

THAT HE WOULD "GIVE ALL HIS FORTUNE TO KANAKO."

WHO CARES WHO IT GOES TO.

HM? A BOX?

IN THIS CASE IT ISN'T JUST PROPERTY AND ESTATES. IT'S ALL THE STOCKS, PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, EVERYTHING!!

I REALIZE THAT HE HAS NO OTHER BLOOD-RELATED FAMILY, BUT GIVING EVERYTHING TO A 14 YEAR OLD GIRL!!?

SHE SAID SHE HASN'T TALKED TO KANAKO ABOUT HER FATHER, SO SHE CAN'T ACCEPT THE INHERITANCE.

YOUKO, WHO IS KANAKO'S GUARDIAN, DENIED ACCEPTANCE OF THE INHERITANCE.

BUT AGAIN, A PROBLEM ARISES.

THOUGH IT WAS ON THE CONDITION THAT THERE IS PROOF THAT KANAKO IS HIROYA-SAN'S BIOLOGICAL DAUGHTER.

AND SO A WILL WAS WRITTEN,

EVEN IF SHE'S HER GUARDIAN, SHE CAN'T JUST SAY NO WITHOUT ASKING HER DAUGHTER.

NO IT'S NOT!

ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING?

THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING YOU TO FIND HER.

OH!

YOU SOUND LIKE YOU CAN'T EVER TALK TO KANAKO-SAN.

IN THE END...

BUT IN THE END I ONLY HAD ONE CHANCE TO TALK TO HER.

I'VE TRIED MANY TIMES TO MEET WITH KANAKO—

KANAKO WAS KID-NAPPED!

THAT'S .. KANAKO...?

SHE SEEMS TO BE HURT.

MINAMI KINUKO AND—

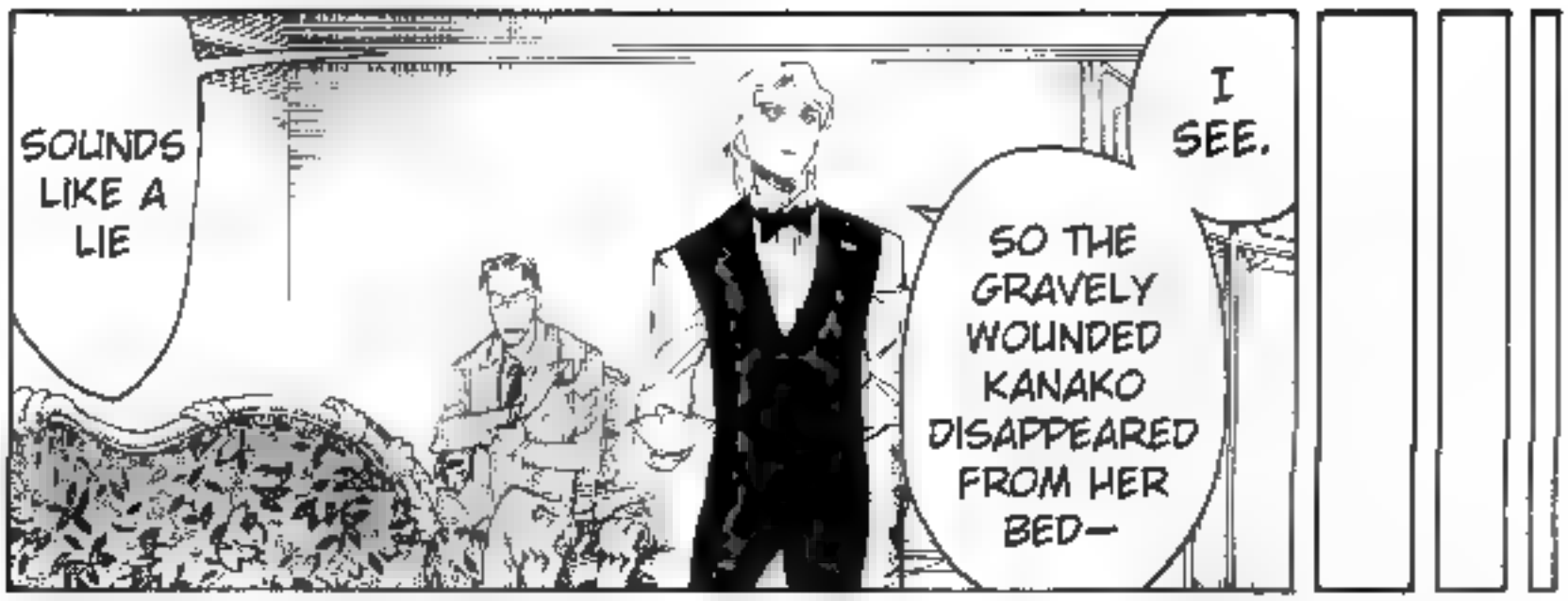
THAT MUST BE AMEMIYA.

HM!?

AND—

KIBASHU—?

WHY...


SOUNDS LIKE A LIE
I SEE.
SO THE GRAVELY WOUNDED KANAKO DISAPPEARED FROM HER BED—

NO-THING.
THEY WERE JUST STANDING AROUND
WHAT WERE THE POLICE DOING?
THERE WAS A NOTICE BEFORE-HAND, RIGHT?

AND BESIDES, IF KILLING HER WOULD SOLVE IT THEN SHE WOULD'VE ALREADY BEEN—
DON'T THINK MONEY WILL SOLVE EVERYTHING!
HOW IDIOTIC!

MAYBE IT WAS DONE BY SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T WANT HER TO INHERIT HIS FORTUNE.

AFTER THEY LAID OUT A MASSIVE AMOUNT OF GUARDS BECAUSE THEY FOUND OUT THAT KANAKO WAS A BLOOD RELATIVE OF MR. YOKOO.
USE-LESS!

TWO DAYS AGO,

IF KANAKO DIES BEFORE MR. YOKOO, ALL OF THIS GOES BACK TO ZERO, INCLUDING THE MONEY USED TO RAISE KANAKO.

HOW-EVER,

BUT SHE'S IN CRITICAL CONDITION, RIGHT? IS SHE EVEN ALIVE?

EXACT-LY.

AND--

I SEE.

IF MR. YOKOO DIES FIRST, THE WILL MUST BE EXE-CUTED.

SHIBATA YOKOO PASSED AWAY.

—AH.

AND?

NOT THE POLICE, THEY THINK IT'S ALL A TRICK SET UP BY YOUKO.

IS IT NOT?

AREN'T THE POLICE LOOKING?

SO YOU'RE ASKING ME TO FIND KANAKO TO SEE IF SHE'S ALIVE OR DEAD?

THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO GO AND LOOK FOR SOMEONE.

HMM...

SOMETHING DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT.

WHAT? NO.

DID MR. YOKOO GO SUDDENLY?

IF KANAKO INHERITS THE FORTUNE, YOUKO CAN GET HER HANDS ON THE MONEY.

THERE'S NOT A REASON TO KIDNAP HER.

YES, I DID... BUT IS THERE SOME-THING WRONG ...?

DID YOU TELL THAT TO KINUKO-SAN?

HM...

THERE'S SOMETHING MISSING.

HE COULD'VE GONE IN THE LAST MONTH OR SO.

AFTER HIS STROKE, HE GOT BETTER ONCE BUT SOON FELL INTO CRITICAL CONDITION.

OOH.

NO LEAKING INFOR-MATION.

THIS SEARCH SHOULD BE DONE WITH DIS-CRETION.

NOW, ENOKIZU-KUN,

COR-RECT.

WE'LL GIVE YOU MORE IF IT'S NOT ENOUGH.

THIS SHOULD COVER THE EX-PENSES.

THESE ARE THE DETAILS OF THE CASE. IF YOU CAN'T LOCATE HER, AT LEAST FIND OUT IF SHE'S STILL ALIVE.

WELL YOU ARE NOW.

I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO SHARE ANY INFORMATION.

...

DON'T YOU HAVE ANY MORALS AS A DETECTIVE?

WHAT?

NOPE.